





# Nationalized industries rebel on government moves to force sell-offs

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The nationalized industries have staged an open revolt against government plans which would give ministers power to force up financial targets, demand cash returns on reserves, and sell off marketable portions of every state-owned activity from coal and gas to railways and the Post Office.

Treasury proposals have been denounced by nationalized industry boards as draconian, inadequate and close to expropriation. Even the National Coal Board, under Mr Ian MacGregor, normally regarded as the most loyal to the government line, has told the Treasury that its plans for piecemeal privatization are unclear and that if pits and collieries are to be sold off, then primary legislation would be more appropriate than ministerial orders rushed through Parliament under an Enabling Act.

The coal board has told the Commons Select Committee on Energy: "While the (Treasury) memorandum states explicitly that these provisions are not intended to permit privatization of an entire industry, it is not clear whether they are intended to permit privatization of parts of the board's mining activities."

"If these provisions were intended to apply to the board's

mainstream mining activities, then the board would need to carry out a detailed examination of all legislation applying to the coal mining industry enacted over the past 40 years, much of which has been drafted on the basis that there is a single operator."

Responding to the Treasury proposal to fix its own financial targets for the industries, the coal board says: "The board believes that it is a well-proven principle of organization that management will respond more actively in meeting a target which can be regarded as internally generated, rather than one ultimately set from outside."

Sir Denis Rooke, chairman of British Gas, drives home the same message. In a letter to the select committee, he says that the financial proposals are objectionable in principle, unprecedented in practice, and potentially damaging.

"Not only the price of gas, but the whole gamut of corporate planning, capital expenditure and wage negotiations would become the implicit responsibility of government. The corporation's board would be, to all intents and purposes, reduced to the role of a management committee acting at the ultimate behest of the Treasury," he said.

"A Board which had no standing to press a point, will not press. The new proposals would not only change the balance of the dialogue, but ultimately remove the need for any real dialogue at all."

The Electricity Council, which answers for the Central Electricity Generating Board and area boards in England and Wales, says: "No manager of any stature or capability would be likely to be attracted to boards if the regime under which he or she has to operate was fettered and circumscribed in the way set out in the proposals."

The Electricity Consumers' Council says: "Almost inevitably the proposals are likely to lead to deers electricity and to involve an appropriation by the Treasury of the consumers' stake in the electricity industry."

The strength of nationalized industry protest is reinforced by the fact that the new Treasury proposals replaced a previous paper which had to be withdrawn last year in the face of a concerted outcry from the nationalized industry chairmen.

Treasury ministers hope to use the new draft as the basis for legislation in the next session of Parliament, within the next 12 months.

## Mix-up over export of 'strategic' equipment

The Government appears to have been unable to stop a Scottish company exporting equipment thought to be capable of manufacturing material for missile nose cones, to the Soviet Union.

On February 8 customs and excise impounded machinery at Hull docks which was due to be loaded on to a Russian freighter. It has now been revealed that the bulk of the equipment had already been sent to Russia, where it has been erected about 40 miles north of Moscow.

Mr Dewar Crawford, managing director of Consarc Engineering, of Bellshill, near Glasgow, said yesterday: "The Russians inquired four years ago about the possibility of buying a number of high-temperature vacuum furnaces suitable for processing carbon."

He added that despite written approval from the Government for the order, which was won in the face of strong competition, the Export Control Regulations were amended on February 8, 1983, which had the effect that the equipment at Hull docks was the subject of an export licence.

At the heart of the decision to halt the shipment lay the fear that the furnaces could have been used to manufacture a lightweight carbon material with tremendous heat-resisting qualities used to coat rocket nose cones.

## Oxford and Cambridge win



The triumph of Cambridge University women's lightweight crew (above) at Henley yesterday is matched by the Oxford women's crew, who won the day's main race. Report, page 19 (Photographs: Bill Warhurst).

## Westminster style for councils under study

By Hugh Clayton  
Local Government Correspondent

The possibility of cabinet-style government by local councils is being investigated by the new independent committee on procedures in local government.

The committee of four, chaired by Mr David Widdicombe, QC, has asked for evidence about the widespread view that formal decision-making by councils often no longer reflects political reality. The committee started work a few weeks ago, and will make its first public appearance in London tomorrow.

In theory arguments in councils are thrashed out in open debate. But the real debate is often held in a closed one-party meeting. The public chamber is used for futile tirades by the opposition against a foregone conclusion.

"At the moment you get a pretend system," Mr Widdicombe said in an interview with *The Times*. "The theory is still that decisions are taken in the council chamber."

Transplanting the conventions of Westminster to councils might include some equivalent of prime minister's question time. Mr Widdicombe said: "There would be an executive committee of the local authority which would be one party, not as at present with minority party representation."

"You would have to have safeguards for the minority parties and rights which they had not got at the moment," he emphasized. The committee had not reached any conclusions and would be investigating as widely as possible.

The inquiry is one of two announced at the Conservative Party conference last year. The other, conducted by ministers, is about finance. The Widdicombe committee has been told to investigate "practices and procedures governing the conduct of local authority business... and to make any necessary recommendations for strengthening the democratic process."

Anyone, including an aggrieved taxpayer, can offer evidence to the committee. It is supposed to report to ministers in less than a year. It has also been asked for an interim report in the summer about the use of public funds by councils for "overt political campaigning."

Mr Widdicombe insisted that the committee had no party political bias and wanted evidence from all shades of political opinion. "I want the Greater London Council and others to come and give oral evidence."

Mr Widdicombe, aged 61, has not belonged to a political group since he left the Labour party more than 25 years ago. He has been joined on the committee by Sir Lawrence Boyle, aged 65, a former Glasgow city chamberlain, and Mr George Russell, aged 49, managing director of British Alcan Aluminium. The other member is Mr Peter Newsam, aged 56, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality and former education officer of the Inner London Education Authority.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$25; Belgium 100; Canada 100; France 100; Germany 100; Greece 100; Hong Kong 100; India 100; Italy 100; Japan 100; Korea 100; Malaysia 100; Mexico 100; New Zealand 100; Norway 100; Philippines 100; Singapore 100; South Africa 100; Sweden 100; Switzerland 100; Taiwan 100; Thailand 100; United Kingdom 100; USA 100; West Germany 100; Yugoslavia 100.

## CBI takes bullish view of economy

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry, in one of its most optimistic manufacturing forecasts for almost a decade, predicts that the economy will grow by 4 per cent this year.

The bullish pronouncement, issued today, compares with the Government's estimate that gross domestic product (GDP) will rise by 3½ per cent in 1985. If accurate it could prove to be the highest rate of economic growth since 1973.

CBI economists say that the economy will benefit this year from the recovery of lost coal output, and by buoyant exports. The underlying rate of growth, allowing for the coal strike, is forecast to be 3 per cent, with inflation remaining at 3 per cent. The rate of increase in GDP in 1986 is predicted to fall to 2½ per cent.

The results of the CBI's March industrial trends survey, covering 1,778 manufacturers, show that export orders are at the highest for eight years, and total order books are the best for six years.

Exports could grow faster than world trade. The export boom and rise in investment, reinforced by greater consumer spending, are also major factors, the CBI says. But the organization repeats the warnings over pay rises that have been a feature of its forecasts this year.

Mr David Wigglesworth, chairman of the economic situation committee, said world markets remained intensely competitive and it was vital that industry make every effort to avoid cost increases.

"Wage costs are particularly critical, and pay settlements which are not matched by productivity improvements will put this resurgence at risk."

The economists say that underlying average earnings in manufacturing continued to increase by 8.5 per cent last year, while output per head rose by only 4.5 per cent in 1984. The rise of 4 per cent in unit labour costs occurred when those of Britain's competitors were falling.

Higher growth is expected to create a net 370,000 new jobs this year, although manufacturing employment alone should drop by 0.5 per cent this year and next. In distribution, services and other sectors, output growth is put at 5½ per cent this year and 3½ per cent in 1986.

Last month's Budget improved the outlook for inflation but worsened output prospects, according to the London Business School (David Smith writes).

Even so, the jobs measures in the Budget should cut unemployment by 300,000 between now and 1988, it predicts.

## Walker, Heath warn MPs over jobless

By Our Political Reporter

The Cabinet was given a double warning yesterday, from within its ranks by Mr Peter Walker and from the sidelines by Mr Edward Heath, the former prime minister, that failure to do more to combat unemployment carried immense political dangers for the Conservative Party.

Addressing a weekend conference of the Tory Reform Group, a leading pressure group on the party's liberal wing, Mr Heath said that if the Government continued present policies many Tory MPs would lose seats at the next general election.

Mr Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, put himself firmly at the head of those within the Government calling for more effective action to reduce dole queues when he told the same conference: "We have got to recognize the political urgency to the party and the urgency to our nation of really grasping the unemployment problem."

Mr Walker's message, though predictably more cautiously worded than Mr Heath's, was similar. "There is now an acceptance that the Conservative Party will not succeed in the years to come unless we are shown to be the party most effective in tackling the problem of unemployment," he told the group, of which he is president.

Their warning coming the week after the Government announced a series of measures aimed at stimulating new jobs, and as the Labour Party prepares for tomorrow's launch of a jobs and industry campaign, was further confirmation that unemployment will dominate the political argument in the coming months.

Mr Heath's speech, at University College, Oxford, was probably the strongest of his recent attacks on the Government, and particularly on the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson.

He pronounced "crude monetarism" as dead and buried, and said the future was being mortgaged.

But it was in a question session, when saying he did not know what unemployment would be at the next election if the Government carried on with its policies, that he added: "All I can tell you is that a lot of people will lose their seats."



Mr Heath: election alert.

Mr Heath said: "We are told also that we are entering the fifth year of sustained growth, the longest period since the war. True but don't forget that the upturn is from the lowest level since the 1930s and we have not yet got back to where we started from in 1979. There are more than three million living testimonies to that."

His strongest words came when he attacked the concept of people being forced into low wages, of which the Government's plan to abolish or reform wages councils is seen as a part. "I have always been a strong supporter of labour market reform and moderation in wage settlements. But I cannot accept these tired old arguments of the 1920s and 1930s rehashed again for the 1980s."

## Handling of pit strike attacked

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Government's public intervention in negotiations during the last months of the miners' strike, has been criticized by Mr Ned Smith, the former director general of industrial relations at the National Coal Board.

Mr Smith, who was removed from the negotiating team and took early retirement, because he disagreed with the line being taken by ministers and Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the coal board, said that the preconditions demanded of the miners' union were "unprecedented in the management of industrial relations."

The criticisms are voiced in an article in *Personnel Management* and come after reorganization of the board's management structure.

Sources inside Hobart House, the coal board's headquarters in London, expect further changes after last week's establishment of a new executive committee comprising area directors who were thought to have performed well during the strike.

It is understood that a statement concerning the future of Mr James Cowan, NCB vice-chairman, may be made later this month, with the possibility that he will relinquish day-to-day management duties to take a consultancy role for the board in its Scottish area.

Mr Michael Eaton, North Yorkshire area director and chief spokesman during the last five months of the strike, is viewed as a likely successor to Mr Cowan, who is due to retire in the autumn. His early departure would renew speculation about the future of the Office of Chief Executive which Mr MacGregor operated with Mr Cowan, as the top layer of management.

It is also thought that Mr MacGregor is keen to offer voluntary redundancy to any miner who wants it and then undertake a big resettlement programme, transferring miners to pits where manpower is required.

Some board sources believe that more than 40,000 miners could leave under this process, which would be extremely costly as the severance terms allow £1,000 for each year of service.

In his article, published today, Mr Smith said that there had been "a dramatic change" in the Government's role in the last two or three months of the miners' strike. "Government spokesmen started publicly prescribing what management negotiators could or could not do, indeed what they would or would not do."

"Personnel managers must have been intrigued, to say the least, by the advice that to be a good negotiator you must have written, down on paper, an agreed solution to the problem, before the negotiating meeting can be arranged."

"The manner of the ending of the strike was not, in my judgement, the most sensible that management might have obtained. Let's hope it can be redressed and quickly. If not the future will be bleak indeed," he said.

## Church fears regional rift

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The miners' strike may be "the pattern of things to come" as jobs in certain regions and industries decline faster than others, according to a Church of England document published today.

Economic changes could have profound implications for political stability, it states. "The older urban industrial areas may become progressively divided politically from the green fields of the shires and the new electronic industrial areas of the M4 corridor."

The document is the first stage in a church inquiry into national goals and aspirations. It is intended to promote comments from church people, politicians and members of the public. In due course, the Church of England will publish a statement describing what it thinks the long-term aims of society should be.

The project covers four areas: "Our values and goals as citizens"; distribution of wealth; income; family and household life.

The project is under the sponsorship of the board for social responsibility of the General Synod, and the committee concerned is chaired by the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood.

Dr Habgood's committee will be receiving evidence until the end of November.

Goals for our Future Society (Board for Social Responsibility, Church House, Dean's Yard, London SW1; 95p).

## Power workers threaten breakaway from TUC

Moderate unions could organize a breakaway grouping if the TUC decides to expel the electricians and engineering unions for accepting government funds in finance ballots, the leader of the power engineers said last night (Our Labour Correspondent writes).

Mr John Lyons, general secretary of the Engineers' and Managers' Association which incorporates the power engineers, said that an alternative organization based on moderate

policies would be a "powerful attraction" for many unions, including his own.

TUC leaders have set in train the lengthy process for bringing disciplinary action against the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, which have applied to the Government for funds to support their systems of secret postal ballots for elections of officials.

## Employer-union joint call for industrial peace

Six top company directors and six trade union leaders have signed a joint declaration urging a new commitment to industrial peace (our Labour reporter writes).

Mr John Harvey-Jones, chairman of ICI, has joined Mr Ron Todd, left-wing general secretary elect of the Transport and General Workers' Union, in backing a manifesto calling for "competitiveness with justice". It urges managers and union leaders to meet urgently in organizations throughout the country to improve their industrial relations.

The document has been issued to coincide with a conference in London today, sponsored by the independently-funded Industrial Society.



Last Suspect, the 50-1 outsider which won the Grand National, greeting Mr Tim Forster, his trainer, yesterday after he returned in triumph to his stables at Letcombe Bassett, Berkshire. The horse was paraded through the village past banners that said "Welcome home: not last but first." Racing, page 21.

## Haughey demands hard line

From Richard Ford, Dublin

Fitzgerald had met in Brussels and agreed that it was worthwhile continuing the dialogue in the hope of reaching a deal to bring political progress in Northern Ireland, Mr Haughey issued a warning against "ad hoc palliatives" that would only prolong the tragedy.

"The Irish government must not become involved in some vague consultant role in the administration of the six-county area as a substitute for entirely new political and constitutional structures. Any such responsibility for the administration of an area over which Britain would still exercise sovereignty and control would in our view lead to disaster," he said.

It was futile to attempt to gain some initiative within the existing structure of Northern Ireland because it was a failed entity and was the basic cause of the problem.

Both the British and Irish governments say that the talks may not succeed but Mr Fitzgerald wanted to be sure that Mrs Thatcher was committed to the negotiations.

The British Government is offering the republic a consultative role in the affairs of Ulster, including issues such as security and the judiciary which Dublin sees as main reasons for alienation among the Roman Catholic minority.

Mr Michael Macdonald-Cooper, a freelance writer from Perthshire, came third and Mr S. H. Shabankarch, aged 25, a computer specialist with Shell, came fourth.

## Second puzzle victory for headmaster

By John Grant  
Crossword Editor

Mr Michael Wareham, headmaster of New Park School, St Andrews, Fifeshire, won the Scottish regional final of the Collins Dictionary Times Crossword championship in Glasgow yesterday for the second year in succession.

Mr Wareham, aged 43, whose hobbies are music and drama, came fifth in last year's national championships. He completed yesterday's four puzzles without a mistake in 37 minutes.

Another former national finalist, Mr Grant Walker, a lecturer in mathematics at Manchester University, came second. He is a Scot by birth but now lives in Alderley Edge, Cheshire, and took an average of 12½ minutes for each puzzle.

Mr Wareham and Mr Walker go through to the national final to be held in London.

Mr Michael Macdonald-Cooper, a freelance writer from Perthshire, came third and Mr S. H. Shabankarch, aged 25, a computer specialist with Shell, came fourth.

## MPs suggest economies at question time

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

It is just the kind of saving of taxpayers' cash and slashing of unnecessary bureaucracy - £75,000 and roams of repetitive words a year - of which Mrs Margaret Thatcher would thoroughly approve.

Soon, if MPs agree, those economies will be made at her own Prime Minister's Question Time.

The potential for savings at the twice-weekly Commons ritual arises from the fact that MPs rarely table specific oral questions in the daily order paper for Mrs Thatcher to answer at the dispatch box every Tuesday and Thursday.

Instead, they nearly always ask "if she will list her official engagements" for the day, the reason being partly to fox her and because Prime Ministers in the past have got out of answering many detailed questions by transferring them to departmental ministers.

By being deliberately vague a question provides no evidence of an appropriate minister to whom it could be transferred and, by the same token, no

indication of the supplementary question which will follow. In short, MPs, particularly from the opposition benches, can try to catch Mrs Thatcher out.

But the result is that usually more than 100 MPs have the identical "engagements" question printed on more than six pages of the order paper.

Now the Commons select committee on procedure, which has recently concluded an inquiry into the printing of oral questions to the Prime Minister, is expected to recommend that repeating the same question on page after page is a waste.

The MPs have calculated that the savings to be achieved in printing, paper, typesetting and associated costs from cutting out unnecessary repetition could amount to £75,000 a year. Order papers cost £2.5 million a year to produce.

The select committee is expected to suggest a system whereby the "engagements" question is printed in full once, with the names of MPs who have asked it listed below.

**Clydesdale Bank PLC**

### BASE RATE

Clydesdale Bank PLC announces that with effect from 1st April 1985 its Base Rate for lending is being reduced from 13¼% to 13 per annum.

Due to a printing error, this notice appeared in yesterday's edition under the heading "House Mortgage Rate". Clydesdale Bank P.L.C. House Mortgage Rate remains unchanged at 13¼% per annum.

مكتبة من الأصول



# Dental patients to pay most or all of cost as NHS charges rise

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Patients who are not exempt from National Health Service dental charges will be paying most of the cost of their treatment for the first time as new charges become effective today. For millions of courses of treatment the service will be paying nothing, or next to nothing, towards the cost.

Charges for dental treatment are rising by 25 per cent, coinciding with a similar increase in prescription charges to £2 and the ending for most people of NHS spectacles.

Leading dentists said that for many dental patients the service was virtually a privatized service.

Mr Ralph Followell, immediate past chairman of the British Dental Association's council, said: "This has been done gradually and by stealth, but many patients will be paying all or almost all the cost of their treatment."

Dentists fear the new charges will encourage people to have teeth extracted rather than conserved, because extractions are cheaper. The association issued a warning that the charges will "set dental health back a generation".

The association has, however, persuaded the Department of Health and Social Security to review the charging system to look for a method that is simpler and less damaging. The present system is "virtually incomprehensible for patients" and is "riddled with anomalies", the association said.

Under the new charges, examinations remain free. But with the exception of children, expectant and nursing mothers and people on low income, everyone, including many pensioners, will pay for the first £17 of treatment, and 40 per cent above that.

There are, however, separate specific charges for crowns, dentures and bridges, with a maximum charge of £115.

On the ministry's figures, patients who pay charges will be contributing 60 per cent of the cost of the NHS service, against 50 per cent last year.

The table shows, however, that for millions of courses of relatively routine treatment, patients will pay the full cost. For many of the more complex and lengthy treatments the NHS contribution is extremely small. For others the proportion the NHS pays will vary widely and by no clear logic.

Thus in example seven the patient pays £39.30 of the £44.30 cost of two X-ray examinations of a tooth and a porcelain crown. If a bonded crown is used, however, the patient pays the same but the NHS contribution rises from £5 to £22. But if a high gold content crown is needed, the patient's share rises to £69.30, while the NHS contribution drops to £5 again, less than 7 per cent of the cost.

Mr Followell said: "Under the new system of £17 plus 40 per cent it is much more difficult to give patients clear advice about how much their treatment will cost. For many patients who attend regularly and need little work, there will be little or no increase. But some patients who have been paying £14.50 could now be picking up a bill of £30 or £40."

"When an extraction costs the patient only £3.30 and a root-filling and rebuilding a tooth could cost £30, a lot more teeth are going to be sacrificed which could be saved."

The association says it is appalled at the increases. But it is worried that if it protests too much regular patients, including, for example, pensioners who need replacement dentures, will be deterred from attending although they face little or no increase in charges.

The association said: "Although the initial cost of getting in good dental health may now be high, people who look after their teeth and attend regularly will find that the cheapest course in the long run."

In its experience such expressions are in common use on the shopfloor, "but it is not intended that there should be any actual racial meaning".

In a written reserved decision, just published, the tribunal rejects a claim of unfair dismissal, and a further claim of racial discrimination, by Mr Zedekiah Mills, a stacking truck driver, who lost his job at Austin Rover's Longbridge plant, Birmingham, last year when he hit a foreman, who, he claimed, called him a black bastard. A week-long strike followed his dismissal.

The incident took place when the two men were arguing. Mr Mills claimed that it was the third time racial abuse had been offered him within the plant, and that on the two previous occasions management had not taken sufficient action.

A model, Miss Jane Massey, amid the splendour of the main dining car.

## Race slur claim dismissed

Calling a man a black bastard may not be racial abuse, but no different from saying someone is Scottish, Welsh or Asian and illegitimate, according to an industrial tribunal in Birmingham.

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A model, Miss Jane Massey, amid the splendour of the main dining car.

The Royal Scotsman, which will carry passengers on luxury Highland tours, arriving at Marylebone station yesterday (Photographs: Bill Warhurst).

The Royal Scotsman, which will offer the most expensive and luxurious train trips in Britain from next month, steamed into platform four at Marylebone station, London, yesterday. (Michael Horsnell writes).

The train, which will offer leisurely travel round the Scottish Highlands at a cost of up to £2,260 a person for six days, was piped into London by Lance Sergeant Brian Donaldson of the Scots Guards.

With elegantly restored carriages from the Victorian and Edwardian periods the train will carry only 30 passengers on each trip.

Three and six-day itineraries are planned, starting from Waverley Station, Edinburgh. The price will include a private bathroom, cabins, meals, wine, bar drinks and excursions.

It will be operated on BR tracks by the Great Scottish and Western Railway Company, which aims to set new standards in luxury rail travel. About £1 million is being spent on refurbishment.

## Luxury of Highlands tour train

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## Year of dairy quotas 'appals' farmers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Today marks the first anniversary of dairy farm production quotas, the end of a year in which, according to Sir Steve Roberts, chairman of the Milk Marketing Board, the cost to industry has been "appalling".

Sir Steve believes it would have been better for both producers and consumers to have let the market take its course and let falling prices restrict production.

Farmers' success in reducing production, largely by using fewer concentrate feeds, but also aided by a dry summer which restricted grass growth, could not disguise an enormous amount of trauma, suicides and bankruptcies, he said. The board had had to lay off employees, creameries had cut production, feed merchants had suffered, and dairy equipment manufacturers had seen sales come to a virtual standstill. In an interview with a farming magazine he estimated that the last production could represent 30,000 jobs.

Yet Britain is still not self-sufficient in dairy products, and enforced cuts have allowed countries such as Denmark, France and The Netherlands, which produce three times its own needs, to make renewed inroads into the domestic market.

But the decision to place artificial limits on production to control the growing EEC surpluses of butter, cheese and skimmed milk powder was taken in Brussels and not in London. Quotas were adopted

because countries such as France and West Germany needed to keep their small farmers on the land; price reductions could be absorbed only by large producers, whereas quotas would affect everyone equally.

The difference was strikingly illustrated by Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, last week when he reported that about 1,500 producers in Britain, out of about 60,000, had applied to be compensated under the "outpayers' scheme" for abandoning dairying for at least five years. His French opposite number, M Michel Rocard, had told him that France would need to persuade 41,000 farmers out of a total of nearly half a million to give up milk production to have the same effect.

The scheme is intended to give the Government a proportion of the National quota to be redistributed among small farmers (those with fewer than 40 cows) and those able to prove special hardship, namely that, before quotas were introduced, they borrowed money to finance expansion and could not service their debts.

But Mr Jopling is still 90 million litres a year short of his target of 289 million litres, mainly because farmers who might be considering getting rid of their dairy herds are still waiting to see if they are allotted any extra quota.

Mr Jopling has said that all dairy farmers should be told of their 1985-86 quotas before the end of this month.

## Warning on disruptive pupils

Increasing classroom disruption by a minority of pupils is a serious threat to the majority of children who want to learn, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers says in a report published today.

The second largest teachers' union says widespread youth unemployment is having a serious effect on some children who feel they are wasting their time attending school.

In a policy document, the union calls for an effective range of sanctions to help teachers to deal with trouble-makers.

In difficult circumstances, the union says, its 127,000 members will be instructed to refuse to teach disruptive pupils. It also recommends teachers, parents, school governors and local education authorities to co-operate in drawing up a "contract" of good behaviour, to be guaranteed by parents, for suspended pupils who are readmitted.

Teachers lack adequate initial training on how to cope with disruptive pupils, the statement says. They work under too much pressure, morale is low and there are not enough immediate sanctions available to teachers.

## Mrs Tebbit transferred

Mrs Margaret Tebbit, wife of Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, who was injured in the Brighton bombing has been moved from Stoke Mandeville hospital to one of Britain's leading rehabilitation units for the disabled at the Nuffield orthopaedic centre in Oxford.

## Murder charge

Graham Neale, aged 26, a Radio Trent disc jockey, of Brandcaster Close, Cinderhill, Nottingham, was charged yesterday with murdering Lynne Godingay, aged 24, a receptionist, of Hickling Road, Mapperley, Nottingham, whose body was found in a wood. He is to appear in court in Nottingham today.

## Swans dilemma

Department of the Environment officials will meet today to decide whether or not a swans' nest containing four eggs should be moved. A pair of swans have settled on a boating pond at Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. There is concern that they might attack holidaymakers.

## Surprise flights

Air passengers were surprised yesterday when British Airways substituted Concorde for the normal Trident jet on two "super shuttle" flights between Manchester and London, celebrating BA's launch of five new international routes from Manchester.

## Eton submarine

Three Eton schoolboys are to build a submarine with a £1,000 grant given to them by BP Oil as part of its Challenge to Youth scheme. The project will be part of an A-level design course.

## Ministers back alcohol ban at football grounds

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A ban on the sale of alcohol at football grounds is likely to be proposed at today's meeting between the football authorities and the Prime Minister's team set up to combat hooliganism.

The Football Association and the Football League will be told that, unless they commit themselves to firmer action than they have so far shown themselves ready to take, the Government will do it for them.

Among the measures favoured by ministers are the alcohol ban, stricter controls on the transport of supporters to games at home and abroad, better perimeter fencing and strengthened powers for the police, including the power to call off matches when they fear violence.

Mrs Thatcher was less than happy with the proposals contained in the FA report drawn up after the violence in the Luton-Millwall match last month, and will make that clear today.

The FA, however, will go into today's meeting unprepared to accept that it must take the total responsibility.

Ministers attracted to a drinks ban inside grounds believe that it has contributed to reduction in hooliganism in Scotland.

## 'Monstrous' to allow live firing on Dartmoor

A new agreement between the Ministry of Defence and the Duchy of Cornwall over live firing by the military on Dartmoor was "monstrous and disgraceful", Lady Sayer, patron of the Dartmoor Preservation Association, said yesterday.

The agreement enables servicemen to continue live firing on large areas of the moor, which covers 365 square miles, until September 1991. Under the new licence, artillery firing will be restricted to 60 days a year, 12 fewer than in the previous seven-year agreement.

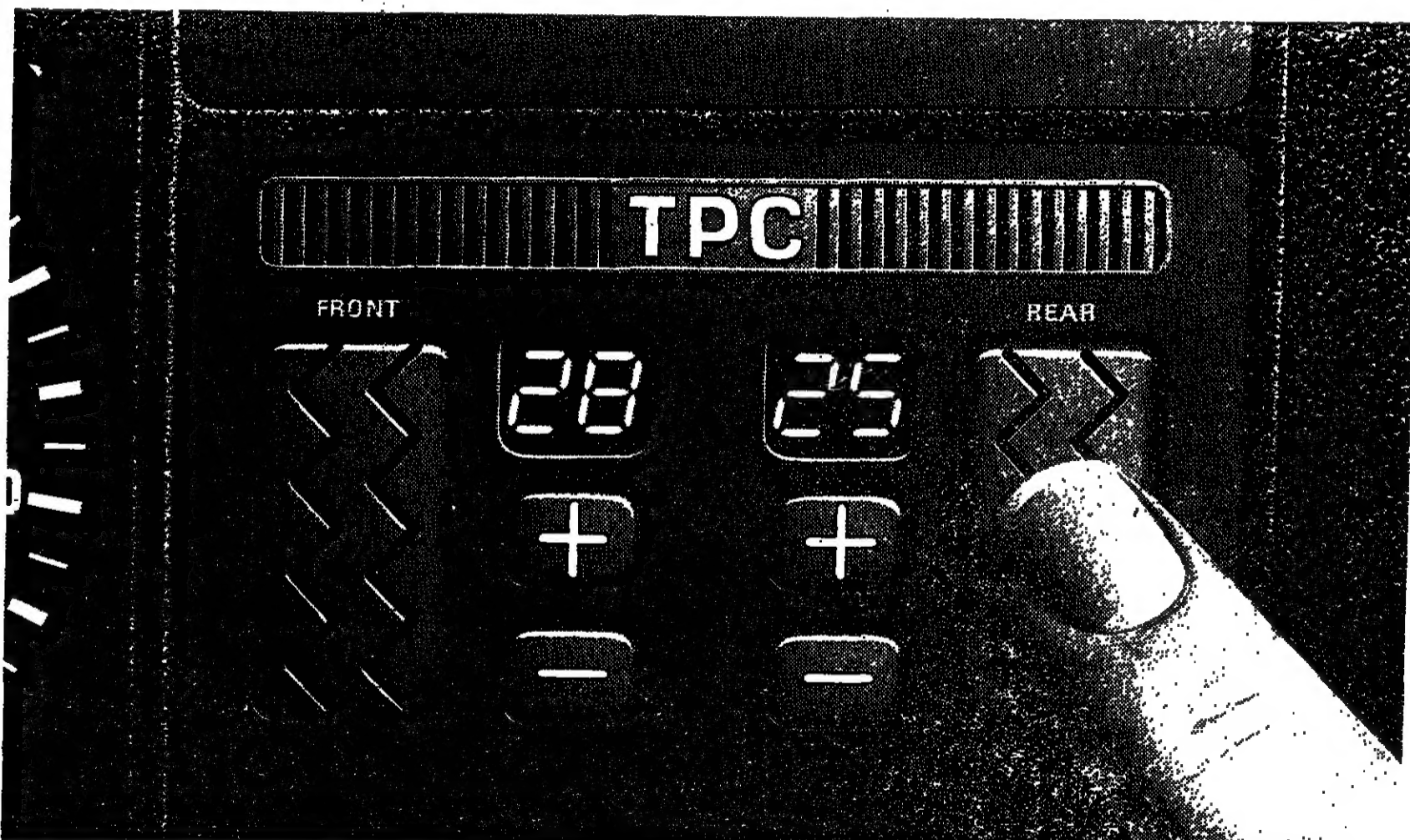
"The Duchy should have taken a far stronger line and are playing a dangerous game in ignoring the opportunity to end live firing", Lady Sayer said.

"Live missiles are being picked up by children and carried home. There have been several cases of this over the past couple of years. It's only a matter of time before there is a serious accident."

Lady Sayer, who lives on Dartmoor, added: "I am really surprised that Prince Charles, as Duke of Cornwall, couldn't assert himself a little more as he is a great conservationist."

The Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, owns 70,000 acres on Dartmoor.

The Duchy of Cornwall said that it would continue to make land available for defence purposes after 1991.



## NOW YOU CAN CONTROL YOUR TYRE PRESSURES FROM INSIDE YOUR MOVING BMW.

BMW have at last solved a problem which has baffled the motor industry for the ninety years since André Michelin's first practical application of Dunlop's pneumatic tyre.

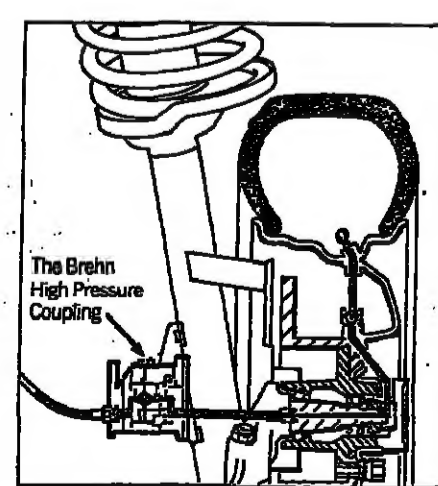
Research among motorists of all ages pinpointed tyre pressure control as an irksome chore.

However, for a BMW, like other high performance cars, correct tyre pressures are vital for proper handling and road holding.

So the very thing that makes for better and safer driving is often neglected. The challenge confronting BMW engineers was to find a way of bridging the gap between the car body and the moving wheels.

Airtight universal couplings work well in theory but in practice have always proved impossible. And the idea of radio controlled air canisters on each wheel has long been ridiculed from Detroit to Dusseldorf.

Sudden progress was made quite



recently after painstaking design work at the BMW research centre. Chief development engineer, Herr Brehm, perfected a revolving seal, kept airtight by an ingenious contra-flow of air under very high pressure.

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BMW's patented tyre pressure control system (TPC) was tested initially on stationary vehicles at their Weindup high speed circuit.

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The possibility of over-inflation is eliminated by imposing a limit at 38 psi outside which TPC cannot function.

Touch a button on the console and a digital display gives pressure. Should this limit be reached, a warning light is immediately activated.

A compressor feeds air into storage units. It then travels to the wheel centre via the revolving seal and through to the tyre.

Excess pressure is merely vented into the contra-flow system. At present TPC is only available on the BMW 6 Series.

But soon it's expected to be a standard and unique feature on all models. Checking your tyres can be a tedious exercise.

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I am tired of checking my tyres. Please send me details of my nearest TPC test centre and optimum suggested BMW tyre pressures for: Town driving ☐ Motorway driving ☐ Sunday driving ☐

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THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MACHINE



## Parents 'know best' on health of children

By Sarah Bayliss, of  
The Times Educational  
Supplement

Parents are the best experts on their children's health and should be given responsibility for their health clinic notes, according to a leading paediatrician.

In a presidential address to the annual conference of the Pre-School Playgroups Association in Lancaster at the weekend, Dr Aidan Macfarlane, consultant paediatrician at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, advocated a system of medical "passports" for young children, which would contain parents' observations and notes, as well as health and development checklists to be completed.

Dr Macfarlane, who has a special interest in cot deaths, said that he hoped such a system would lead to earlier diagnosis of problems.

"If parents were given clues as to what to look for, I believe they would be just as good as, or even better than, the professionals at picking up problems in their children."

Dr Macfarlane, who is responsible for child health services in the Oxford district, said that 75 per cent of families questioned in Abingdon had favoured the idea, and as a result, 500 families had been issued with the notes normally held by their clinics. The scheme had proved so popular with parents and professionals that a further 1,500 families had joined it.

## Weather satellite marks 25 years with pictures every half hour

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A picture from a spacecraft of the changing weather patterns over Britain is being remade every half hour through the meteorological office at Bracknell in Berkshire.

Yet satellite weather forecasting is only 25 years old today. The images of swirling cloud formations over the Atlantic, Europe and North America are also provided from the weather satellite that is used to update weather forecasts broadcast by the television services.

The pictures come back from a spacecraft that relays information for reconstructing conditions over one third of the world every 30 minutes, covering an area from the Atlantic coast of the United States to central Russia in the east, and from Iceland in the north to southern Africa.

This constant monitoring of the conditions influencing the weather over Britain and its European neighbours became possible through an experimental weather satellite called Meteosat, launched by the European Space Agency.

Soon, three operational versions of Meteosat will come into regular service.

Yet it was only 25 years ago today, on April 1 1960, that the

first tentative steps in satellite weather forecasting were made with the launch of Tiros-1, an acronym for Television and Infra-Red Observational Satellite.

With the subsequent strides in space technology, several families of weather satellites have been born. Television images, once stored on a magnet tape recorder and relayed slowly back to ground, are assembled in a few seconds.

Whereas Tiros-1 carried two cameras to record pictures directly, the most up-to-date space craft such as Meteosat employ the electronic method of radiometry for measuring the variations of light and heat radiated from beneath it, and the pictures are reconstructed from the measurements of this radiation, which are the tell-tale signals of the molecules in the atmosphere.

Spacecraft such as Meteosat operate from a geostationary orbit 22,250 miles above the equator, where a satellite is moving in the same sense as the earth's rotation and therefore appears to remain over a fixed point on the ground.

Nevertheless, the most familiar transmissions from satellites are the pictures showing



striking cloud formations. To the trained eye, they provide information about cloud type and about the position, extent and intensity of frontal depressions, thunderstorms, hurricanes, sea-breeze circulation

and typhoons. Other details extracted regularly from the satellite pictures are details of snow cover, sea ice, sea-surface temperatures, cloud-top temperatures and winds at different heights.

## NCCL and Mind urge closure of jail wing

By Patricia Cough

The Government is urged today to close a wing of Holloway prison, north London, where mentally disturbed women are said to be detained in inhumane conditions.

The National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL) and the National Association for Mental Health (Mind) are campaigning to end what they call a "national scandal" at the prison. They said that mentally disturbed women were kept in cells that were "cages where it is simply unthinkable to keep human beings".

The campaign is backed by the Prison Reform Trust, the Howard League for Penal Reform, Women in Prison, and by the Bishop Suffragan of Stepney, The Right Rev J. L. Thompson, in whose diocese Holloway lies.

After a visit to Holloway's CI wing for mentally disturbed prisoners, NCCL and Mind representatives concluded that conditions were as bad as or worse than those at Rampton special hospital and Broadmoor when they were causing public concern.

The wing contains up to 40 women, mostly on remand, many of whom are acutely disturbed.

At the present rate, prisons will be inspected only once every 10 years, according to an all-party group of MPs who yesterday told the Home Secretary that more prison inspectors were urgently needed.

## Gorbachov's new broom brings hope and scepticism

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The editor of *Pravda* picked up the phone the other day and heard the voice of Mikhail Gorbachov at the other end. "Viktor Grigorovich", said Russia's new boss, "do you keep the works of Lenin in your office?"

"Certainly."

"Then be so good in future as to quote him, not me." The story is being circulated in Moscow by the same sources of information (more accurately, perhaps, disinformation) which portrayed Mr Gorbachov as Russia's acting leader as President Chernenko lay dying.

The campaign is designed to show 54-year-old Mr Gorbachov as modest, brisk, and astute, a no-nonsense leader of the new generation, whose aim is efficiency and reform rather than self-glorification.

But three weeks after he took power, a debate has begun over whether Mr Gorbachov is capable of rising above the cautious and limited bureaucracy which produced him, or whether he is "a new engine on the same old tracks," in the words of one diplomat.

As Mr Gorbachov's grass roots purge of ageing and incompetent regional and republic-level officials spreads across the country, from Estonia to Kirghizia, hopes are rising that the new leader will push through radical reforms in a country more used to slow change and safe opinions. "He is a child of Khrushchev, not Stalin," one intellectual said optimistically.

But some official signals contradict the image of the Gorbachov personal style being put about by his supporters. His accession has been marked by relative gloom over the Geneva arms talks, attacks in the Press on Western reporters, and an ambivalent attitude towards the successful reforms re-affirmed by last week's Hungarian Communist Party congress.

With both Hungary and China apparently in mind, Kremlin officials have warned Russians - and the West - not to expect market socialism, private enterprise or political pluralism in Russia.

Mr Gorbachov has made a study of Lenin's New Economic Policy of the 1920s, which involved a mixed economy and foreign investment. But academics who suggest, even theoretically, a modern-day NEP have been firmly slapped down by Neo-Stalinists.

The main foreign policy theme so far is an attempt to split Western Europe from America, although, oddly, Mr Gorbachov's letter to a West German peace group last Thursday has still not appeared in the media (another contrast, perhaps with the Chernenko style of self-promotion).

None the less, Mr Gorbachov is a "young man in a hurry", as one observer put it, and the fact that reforms and NEP are in the air shows how much the man who hopes to propel Russia into the computer age has raised expectations.

Old style appointments are few following the latest sackings: The first secretary at Minsk, in Byelorussia, three high party officials and the justice minister in Kirghizia, a regional secretary and a supreme court judge in Azerbaijan, even the police chief in Gori, Stalin's Georgian birth-place.

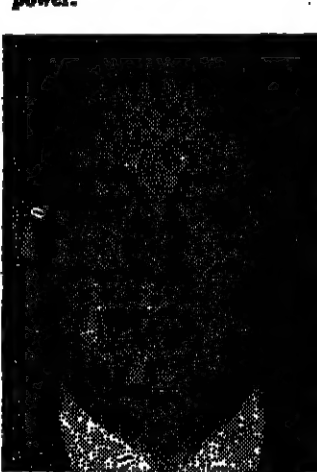
With the passing of the old guard, the average age of the Politburo has dropped to 67 from 70, and the average age of the four young-generation members is 59, giving them perhaps 10 years to get Russia moving.

It is a daunting task in a vast multinational state of 276 million, with a system which, nearly 70 years after the Revolution, remains (except for the military sector) primitive, poor and inefficient. Sources say Mr Gorbachov will move more technocrats into top jobs this month, with Politburo posts for Mr Viktor Chebrikov, the KGB chief, and Mr Yegor Ligachev, the personnel chief who is helping to maintain the administrative shake-up.

Eventually, sources say, 79-year-old Mr Nikolai Tikhonov will go as Prime Minister and be replaced either by Mr Vitaly Vorotnikov, a close Gorbachov ally, or by Mr Gaidar Aliyev.

Observers believe Mr Aliyev, 62, is gaining the edge over Mr Vorotnikov, aged 59, who made a lacklustre speech at the Russian Republic Supreme Soviet last week.

With his KGB links, energy and ability, Mr Aliyev, who is an Azerbaijani, - could help Mr Gorbachov sweep out corruption and complacency and complete the reform movement begun by Andropov during his brief period in power.



Mr Gorbachov: Purge across the country.

## Communist slap for Carrillo

From Richard Wigg  
Madrid

Spain's small Communist Party dismissed Señor Santiago Carrillo as spokesman in Parliament yesterday as punishment for "repeated indiscipline".

Señor Carrillo, aged 70, who for two years has had a bitter battle of wills with Señor Gerardo Iglesias, the party secretary general he himself chose, is to be replaced by Señor Fernando Pérez, another of the four Communist MPs.

Señor Carrillo defiantly called a press conference on the sidelines of a Communist Party national congress held here, to tackle the discipline question. He claimed he had the allegiance of more than half Spain's card-carrying Communist membership. He threatened to take the dispute over who controlled the party.

Señor Iglesias wants the party, before the next election, to be at the head of a broad based non-ideological front of all forces disappointed with the Socialist Government.

## Basque riot over killing of journalist

From Our Own  
Correspondent Madrid

Señor Xavier Galdano, correspondent in south-west France of *Egin*, a Basque newspaper close to the underground ETA organization, was killed on Saturday in St Jean de Luz in a shooting incident claimed by the mysterious extreme right-wing Anti-Terrorism Liberation Group, which has over the past year been attacking Spanish Basques living in France.

Spanish police sources claimed that the journalist and former executive of *Egin* was a member of the Basque separatist organization leadership.

Within hours of his death, amid street protests in Basque cities, a French-registered car was burnt in Bilbao, for which ETA's military wing claimed responsibility.

An explosion yesterday also damaged the premises of a French car company in San Sebastian. There were no immediate reports of injuries or arrests.

## All Blacks' tour of South Africa still in balance

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington

New Zealand is being kept in suspense about whether its rugby union All Blacks will play in South Africa later this year.

The sport's ruling council on Saturday deferred a decision until April 17. After meeting Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister, the 18 councillors sought more time to clarify points he had raised.

The postponement will disappoint Mr Lange, who left immediately for a five-nation visit to black Africa. His path there could have been eased by a decision not to go ahead. He has said that part of his mission is to repair understandings damaged by previous rugby links with South Africa.

But Mr Lange is still confident, and regards the deferment as a positive sign. Mr John Minto, the chairman of Hart (Hart All Racist Tours), has accused the Rugby Union of stonewalling, to avoid public outcry if the invitation from South Africa is accepted. However, SPIR, a pro-tour

faction, has advised the rugby administrators to call what it sees as the Prime Minister's bluff.

Police said yesterday a firm decision was wanted soon because money was being spent on training police.

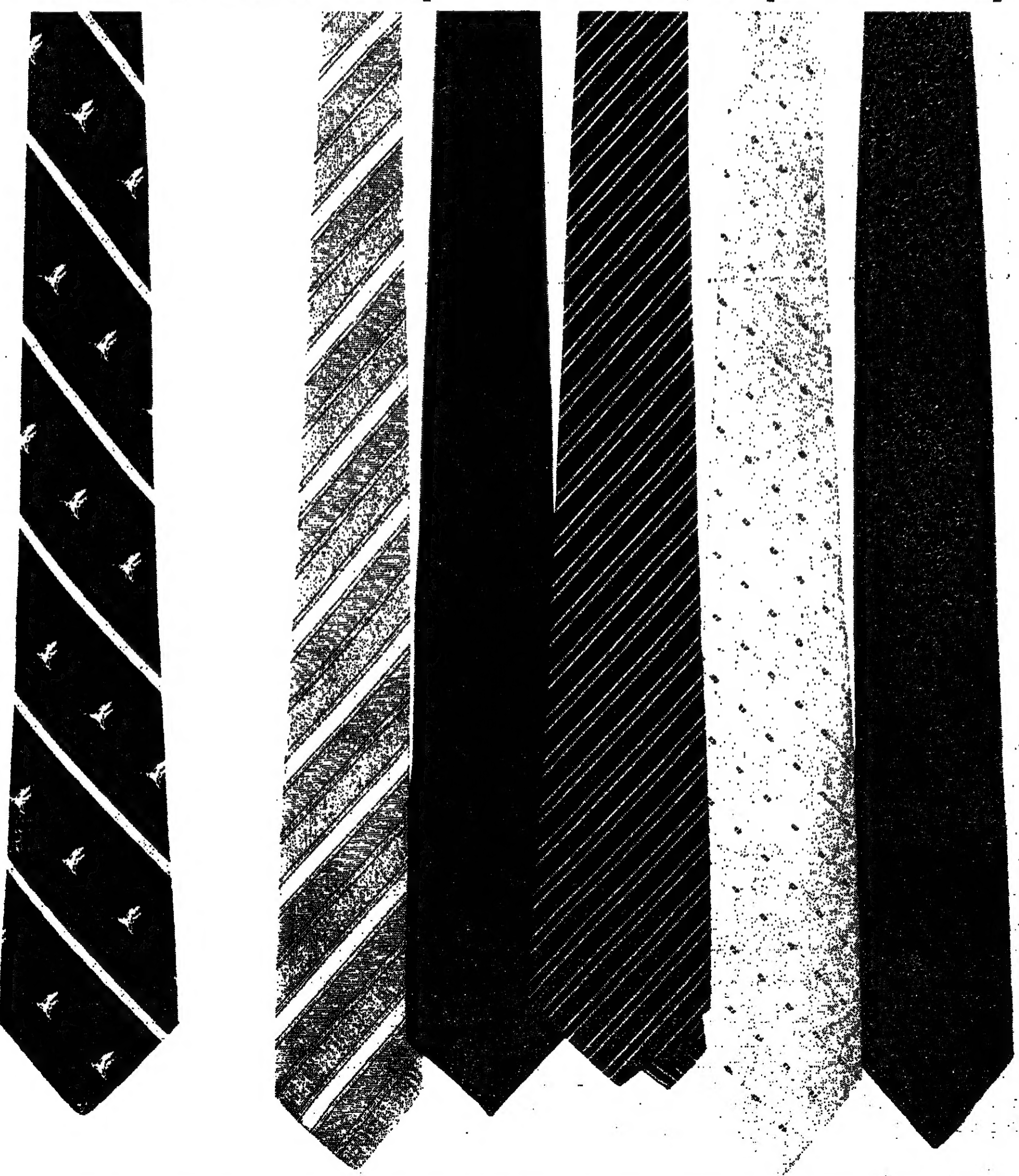
In a letter to the rugby councillors, Mr Lange said an All Black tour would do great damage and reiterated the Government's "total opposition to sporting contact with South Africans outside New Zealand".

Although the letter said the tour "must not proceed", it seemed to accept that the decision was one for the rugby administrators to make.

"The interest of New Zealand is what I wish to urge on you and your fellow councillors," said the letter, addressed to Mr Les Blazey, the Rugby Union president.

Rugby people could not reasonably disclaim responsibility for the consequences that would inevitably flow from their actions, Mr Lange said.

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## Thanks all round from kidnap Briton who thought he might die

From Robert Fisk  
Beirut

It was all rather routine at the British Embassy's commercial section in Beirut yesterday, as if Brian Levick was thanking colleagues for their help on a new business venture rather than on the successful conclusion of a kidnap.

He welcomed journalists to his press conference, praised his wife for having been patient, and even expressed his gratitude to his kidnappers for having released him. Perhaps this is to be the pattern now that abduction is a way of life in Beirut: You thank everybody afterwards, and fly home to England.

But a little reality did creep into the proceedings. "To be kidnapped is not a pleasant experience, nor is imprisonment in itself pleasant," Mr Levick said, staring into the television cameras through his thick spectacles.

He had spent two weeks in solitary confinement, his ears muffled by the whining of an air-conditioning machine, his mind filled with "fear, foreboding and regrets".

He had thought he might die, but decided to be "a good prisoner", walking three miles a day up and down his underground 7ft by 5ft cell, wearing a hood during one of his five interrogations, realizing he just could not remember the poems he learnt at school.

Mr Levick, the managing director of Coral Oil in Lebanon, is a middle-aged, bearded Briton who, like many kidnap

### Paris bomb claim by suicide group

Beirut (Reuters) - The Islamic Jihad group, which carried out suicide truck-bomb attacks on American and French targets in Lebanon and Kuwait, has claimed responsibility for the bomb that wounded 18 people in a Paris cinema on Friday. An anonymous caller said the attack, on a cinema showing a festival of Jewish films, was revenge for Israel's "iron fist" drive against guerrillas in southern Lebanon. Almost 2,000 people took part in an anti-racism demonstration in Paris after the bombing.

victims, emerged as a remarkably courageous man, conscious in his imprisonment of his wife Ann's love for him and admitting afterwards that the "love and esteem" which he held for her had increased because of her behaviour during his ordeal.

He had been grabbed by an armed man outside his west Beirut home on March 15 and dragged by his hair into a car. It quickly became clear that - like Geoffrey Nash, his newly-released compatriot - the kidnappers erroneously believed he was an American.

"I had a great deal of difficulty in conveying to them that I was English," he said. "They appeared to have a very deeply held view that I was an American".

He spent his two weeks' captivity in his cell, treated well

according to his own account by Muslim captors who appeared to have "religious feelings", allowed two or three visits to the toilet each day with a hood over his head.

He knew he would be set free when they told him to put on his business suit and shampoo his hair.

Mr Levick did not know what he would do now, conceding that he felt "weak and weepy". Ann Levick said that when she saw him again his suit looked "a little the worse for wear, not frightfully clean. Otherwise, I was so pleased to see him, I didn't really care".

Mr Levick was held by the "Khaybar brigade" - named after a Jewish village in Arabia destroyed by Muslims in the early years of Islam - and yesterday afternoon the same group released Mme Danielle Perez, aged 34, secretary of the French Embassy cultural section in Beirut, who was abducted nine days ago.

Less fortunate are six other Westerners held captive in Lebanon since mid-March, including Terry Anderson, the American bureau chief of the Associated Press news agency.

Perhaps more immediately disturbing has been the kidnap of three Lebanese Jews, members of Beirut's tiny Jewish community.

Elie Haliak, Haim Cohen and Elie Sour were all abducted by armed men last week in the area of Wadi Abu Jamil, the crumbling, narrow street that was once home to the community but is now controlled by Shia Muslim militias.



Captive account: Brian Levick, watched by his wife, talking in Beirut of "fear, foreboding and regrets" during his captivity.

## Report exposes Israel's growing West Bank control

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

More than half the land in the occupied West Bank is now under total Israeli control through either direct seizure or administrative restriction, according to a report compiled by Mr Meron Benvenisti, head of the West Bank Database Project.

As well as showing Israeli control of 52 per cent of the

West Bank, the report disclosed a master plan for road construction there which provides for expropriation of a further 25,000 acres of the territory conquered in 1967. "The road network is designed to bypass Arab population centres and fragment and dissect the Arab settlement region", noted Mr Benvenisti, a former deputy-mayor of Jerusalem.

The report observed that

drives for land control are typical of all settler societies "from Algeria to the Cape Colony". It said that in 1947 Jews controlled less than 10 per cent of mandatory Palestine. Now Arabs possess only 15 per cent of it.

More than half the area seized by Israel has been requisitioned for military purposes. Only 7 per cent of the area has so far been designated

for housing but that is enough to settle between 800,000 and one million Jews.

● JERUSALEM An Israeli settler, aged 52, was shot dead yesterday in the market place of El-Bireh on the occupied West Bank, Israeli military officials said (Reuters reports).

It was the first serious incident in the West Bank since February 4

## Iraqi planes raid Iran after blast in Baghdad

Baghdad (Reuters) - Iraqi warplanes attacked five Iranian towns and a military camp yesterday after a huge overnight explosion in Baghdad.

A military spokesman said Hormuzabad, Gilan-e-Gharb, Delhoran, Sar-e-Pol-e-Zahab and Mehran, as well as the Hosseinabad camp in western Iran were raided. It was retaliation for Iranian attacks on Iraqi towns.

The blast in central Baghdad occurred at about the time Iran said it fired two missiles at the Iraqi capital. There was evidence of only one explosion. Iraq has made no official statement on the explosion, which damaged buildings, but apparently caused few, if any, casualties.

Journalists trying to reach the site were turned away by police, and there was no way of ascertaining what caused it. It left a hole the size of a large car and shattered windows in hundreds of buildings.

It was the seventh big explosion in central Baghdad since March 14. All have occurred at times when Iran said it had fired missiles at the city. Diplomats disagree on what caused the blasts, at least two of which Iraq has blamed on saboteurs.

● TEHRAN: An Indian envoy left Iran for home yesterday with no sign of progress in his efforts to halt the Gulf fighting (Reuters reports).

President Ali Khamenei told the Indian Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr Kurshed Alam Khan, that it was Iraq that started "these dangerous and deadly games".

● BAHRAIN: The vice-chairman of Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council, Mr Izzat Ibrahim, arrived in Riyadh yesterday on an unexpected visit.

The Saudi Press Agency said he was welcomed by Crown Prince Abdullah, commander of the National Guard, but gave no details. Saudi Arabia is Iraq's biggest financial backer in the war.

The UN Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, is also in Riyadh but it was not immediately known whether he would meet Mr Ibrahim.

New York: Having failed to overcome Iran and Iraq's intractability, the Secretary-General is likely instead to press Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain to use their powers of persuasion, individually and collectively (Our Correspondent writes).

## US-Soviet agreement on easing mission tension

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Commanders of the United States and Soviet ground forces in Germany are to meet soon to discuss new measures to prevent incidents like the fatal shooting of Major Arthur Nicholson of the US Army by a Soviet sentry in East Germany.

The meeting, which will probably be in East Germany next week, was agreed upon during talks between Mr George Schultz, the Secretary of State, and Mr Anatoly Dobrynin, the Soviet ambassador, at the State Department on Saturday.

General Glenn Otis, commander of American forces in Europe, will meet General

## Poll fails to fire Salvadoreans

From John Carlin, San Salvador

Heavily-armed troops saturated the capital and polling areas in the countryside as Salvadoreans voted yesterday in the election for a new National Assembly - in an atmosphere of unusual calm.

Guerrillas of the left-wing Farabundo Martí National Front (FMLN) had previously burned buses and mined roads in an effort to sabotage elections "signifying nothing", in the words of one guerrilla commander.

Army officers had speculated that the guerrillas, who have lost the initiative in the civil war in the last year, were preparing spectacular attacks on election day.

This being the fourth election in three years, there is widespread feeling that, whoever wins, nothing will change substantially.

Some voters yesterday seemed convinced the civil war would continue and the economy would not recover from recent devastation.

The politicians, however, see the result as crucial. President José Napoleon Duarte's Christian Democrats believe they must win a majority in the National Assembly if the President is to succeed in his plans for peace talks with the FMLN, human rights improvements and economic reforms.

For the last three years the assembly has been under right-wing control, checking President Duarte's reformist impulses, according to Christian Democrats.

## Kohl retires for some personal belt-tightening

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany made a further attempt yesterday to prove that he is not engaged in a policy of expansionism. He flew to the resort of Bad Hofgastein with an announced policy of taking off two stone in 14 days.

The visit is an important break with German tradition. The German idea of a politician is of someone very large. There are lean, intense ones but, on the whole, the model is Bismarck rather than Goebbels.

Herr Kohl is not alone among contemporary West German politicians in being a man of breadth.

Herr Kohl is understood to have left for Bad Hofgastein weighing just over 16 stone. How will he achieve his almost impossible aim of taking off two pounds a day for 14 days? The mass circulation *Bild Zeitung*, which has been covering the story of the Chancellor's stomach for some months, said yesterday that Herr Kohl would be relying on long walks, swimming, saunas, and a diet of yogurt, black coffee, fruit and a little cooked fish.

One of the days, namely April 3, will be for the Chancellor a presumably joyless fifty-sixth birthday.

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## Trade talks follow euphoria of EEC deal

## Spain, Portugal: the bilateral strains

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Spain and Portugal, with their prospects of joining the EEC in January brightened by the Brussels summit, today begin here negotiations finally to settle a new framework for bilateral trade.

There is no longer any excuse for delays. The Iberian countries have long been "neighbours with their backs to each other", but Señor Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, has told Señor Ernani Lopes, the Finance Minister and chief EEC negotiator of Portugal, that after Brussels "we are two peoples destined to understand each other".

A speedy and successful settlement of the details of trading and fishing arrange-

ments will represent above all a test of Spanish willingness to make concessions in the interest of longer term peninsular development. The Portuguese, pushed for months by the EEC Commission to agree a new framework, emphasize how much they fear the industrial power on their doorstep which has flourished behind high tariff barriers.

Portugal's exports face Spanish import duties of up to 50 per cent, whereas its industrial imports from Spain enter on very low tariffs.

Lisbon wants Spain rapidly to dismantle its tariffs, but to allow Portugal a series of safeguards.

The EEC's terms agreed with Spain on fishing should help Portugal exclude the Spaniards from its coastal

## Gibraltar chief to visit Spain

Gibraltar's Chief Minister of Gibraltar, Sir Joshua Hassan, is to visit Spain after Easter, for the first time since November 1, 1964, the day Spain imposed restrictions on Gibraltar. The announcement came after an official visit to Gibraltar by Señor Rafael Palomino, president of an organization linking the towns of the neighbouring Campo area.

waters. EEC licensing, with limited catches, will now have to be accepted by Madrid, Lisbon maintaining, in the rich Portuguese 200-mile economic zone, which includes the

Azores. The González Government's happiness over Spanish entry terms was dented somewhat at the weekend by two leading politicians. Señor Manuel Fraga, the right-wing Opposition leader, has switched to demanding that Spain, once it is a part of the EEC, adopt a tough negotiating stance to get more benefits. He recommended copying Britain's approach.

Señor Adolfo Suárez, the former Prime Minister, also condemned the Government by declaring that there was no reason why Spain should remain in Nato even after joining the EEC.

The Italians and Greeks will be the Spanish main in the street's favourite EEC partners, according to a Gallup poll published yesterday by *Diario*

16, the liberal Madrid daily. Britain is bottom of the poll with France, because of Gibraltar, the paper suggests.

Last week, when all eyes were on Brussels, the Spanish Government slipped in a provision for VAT from January 1. Portugal is to attempt the same tax reform.

VAT will be highly unpopular in the peninsula and will probably meet shopkeeper resistance. Among first reactions to the terms, the Portuguese Confederation of Industry forecasts that its member firms will be swept aside by Spanish and other European competitors. Spain's association of small and medium-sized companies has voiced identical fears.

Leading article, page 13



End of the hunt: Signor Calo and two associates, being taken by police from the Rome police headquarters yesterday.

## Kennedy's hint over presidency in 1988

Washington - Senator Edward Kennedy has given the first indication that he is considering running for the presidency in 1988 (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Asked during an interview with the *Boston Globe* whether he would contemplate another presidential bid, he replied: "I've always said I would like to be President some day".

He made it clear he no longer felt constrained by the family considerations that kept him out of the 1964 race. Aides said he probably would not take a final decision on making a bid for the Democratic presidential nomination until next year.

## UPI granted 90 days grace

New York (Reuters) - United Press International, the international news agency, has been given a 90-day grace period by creditors to whom it owes millions of dollars.

The debt moratorium was announced after meetings between UPI and representatives of the 10 major creditors, including American Telephone and Telegraph, American Express, RCA Corporation, Electronics Systems Inc and Gemstar Rental Electronics Company.

## Diver's luck

Wellington (Reuters) - A skin diver, Rosemary Keating, aged 21, swept into the strait between New Zealand's North and South Islands by a strong tide, crawled ashore yesterday morning after more than 18 hours in choppy seas. God, she said, had kept off the sharks.

## Extradited

Boston (Reuters) - A magistrate ordered the extradition from the United States of Charles McArthur Taylor, a former Liberian government minister accused of embezzling nearly \$1m from the West African nation. His defence claimed the charges were political.

## Jet intercept

Johannesburg (AP) - A Zimbabwe military transport plane, carrying a football team to Swaziland which strayed into South African air space, was forced by South African fighters to land at Hoedspruit air force base. It was allowed to leave later.

## Tractor menace

Moscow (Reuters) - Drunken tractor drivers are becoming a serious hazard in Latvia, the local radio said. They were demolishing rural highway bridges, falling into ditches and drowning in ponds.

## Died waiting

Delhi (Reuters) - A man aged 21 died of exhaustion in Madras after a night spent queuing with 12,000 others seeking recruitment as police constable.

## 'Economic brains' of Mafia held

From John Earle Rome

Signor Giuseppe Calo, who is described as the treasurer of the Mafia and is alleged to have laundered billions of lire into the purchase of property and legal investments, has been arrested in Rome. "We believe he is the economic brains of the organization", said the chief of the Rome Flying Squad.

Four arrest warrants, including murder, have been issued for "Don Pippo", as he is known in Sicily, but all trace of him was lost in the early 1970s.

Don Tommaso Buscetta, the former Mafia leader whose confessions last summer brought a wave of arrests, is said to have pointed to "Don Pippo" as a former boss of his own "family". They found him, with two other wanted Sicilians, in an expensive flat in Rome. In another flat they came upon about 400 million lire (£170,000) in cash, jewelry, eighteenth century paintings and modern art.

Police later arrested Don Pippo's wife, Rosaria, 46, his doctor, the wife of another alleged Mafia man arrested with him, and two others.

Don Pippo, aged 54, the son of a Palermo butcher murdered by the Mafia, avenged his father by killing the murderer at 18 and then steadily made his way up the organization.

## Denmark faces strike unrest despite ban

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

Denmark faced the threat of more labour unrest today after the Folketing (Parliament) at the weekend passed emergency legislation imposing an end to the crippling one week private sector strike.

The legislation, presented by the ruling four-party centre-right coalition of Mr Poul Schlüter, the Prime Minister, and supported by the small Radical-Liberal Party and three votes from Greenland and Faeroes members, was finally passed by 85 votes to 80 (with 14 absences) late Saturday night after a sometimes dramatic 11-hour debate.

The legislation, which called for a return to work by 300,000 striking private sector workers at midnight last night and headed off a public sector strike due to start today, imposes 2 per cent ceilings on pay rises for the next two years.

It also includes a package of economic austerity measures restricting loans, a five-year compulsory savings scheme for the better-off (without interest) increases in corporation taxes from 40 to 50 per cent, and other sanctions designed to eliminate the country's growing balance of payments deficit by 1988.

The working week is to be lowered from 40 to 39 hours in 1987 - and not to 34 hours this year, as the unions had demanded.

The package, which political analysts described as the most "draconian in Denmark in over 20 years, has met with a violent storm of protest from union-affiliated workers, giving rise to fears of further mass demonstrations, work stoppages, and disruptions up to the Easter holiday.

## Chile kidnap victims' throats cut

Santiago (Reuters) - The bodies of three abducted Chileans have been found with their throats cut in a ditch on the outskirts of Santiago.

It named them as Señor Manuel Guerrero, aged 36, leader of a teachers union opposed to the military Government, Señor Jose Parada, aged 39, a member of a church human rights organization, and Señor Santiago Nattino, aged 64, a draughtsman.

Señor Guerrero and Señor Parada were abducted last Friday morning by armed civilians as they talked outside Señor Guerrero's school.

Another teacher, Señor Leopoldo Munoz, is in hospital after being shot in the stomach when he tried to intervene.

Relatives of Señor Nattino said he disappeared last Thursday afternoon from a street

## Delhi threat to fence off Bangladesh

From Kuldeep Nayar Delhi

The Government of India has revived plans to erect a barbed-wire fence along the country's borders with Bangladesh to check illegal movement across the border.

The plan had been shelved following protests by Bangladesh during the rule of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

Delhi's decision to go ahead with the plan indicates a tough policy from Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Government. It is also a concession to Assam leaders who are in Delhi, for talks with the Government on the issue of "foreigners" in their state.

Meanwhile, after tension in the districts of Amritsar and Jalandhar in Punjab, the Government has banned pillow-fighting and motorbikes and scooters.

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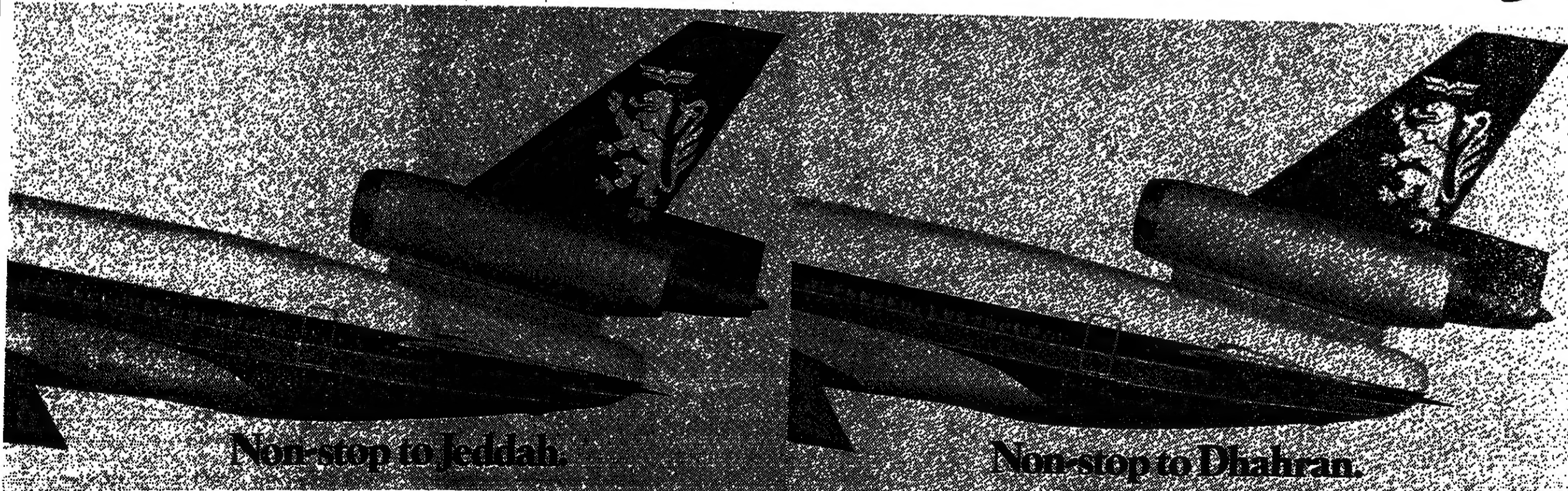
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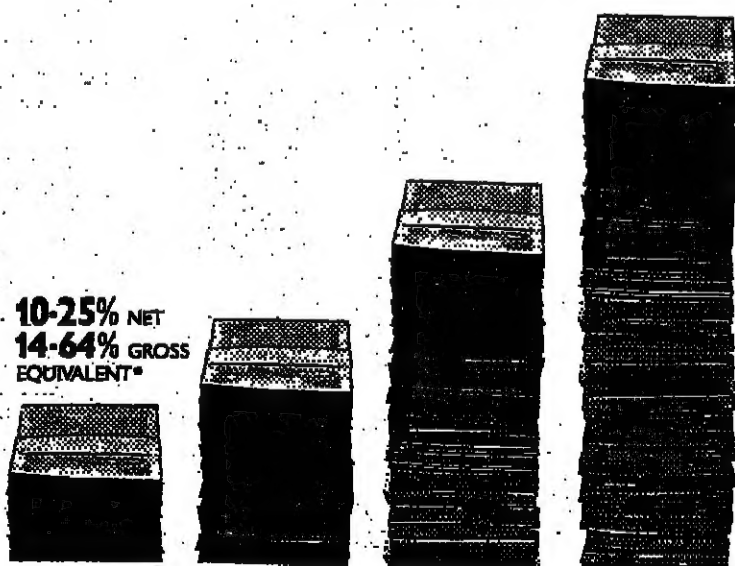
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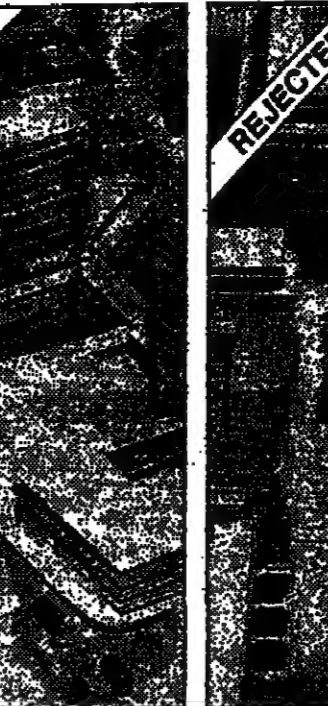
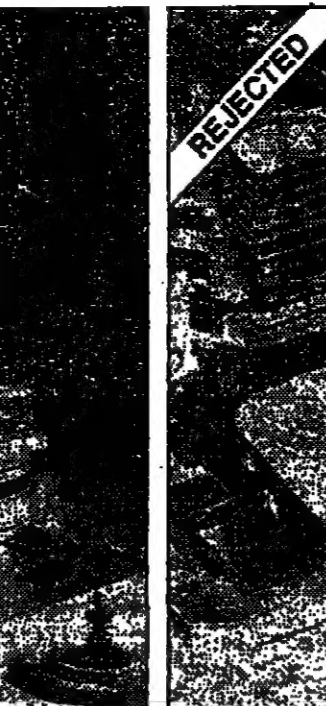
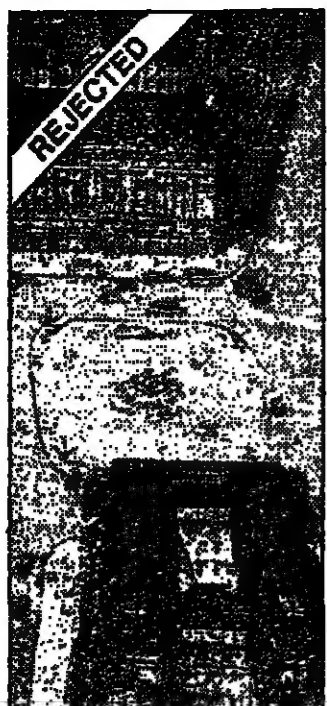
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## SPECTRUM

6 The circus has been saved from the depths of depravity which threatened its livelihood as a popular London meeting place



Piccadilly plans: From left, Sir Alfred Gilbert's sketch of the Eros statue; Harding Thompson and Hepworth's 1924 scheme; wooden facsimile of Eros, 1930; Cotton's controversial design of 1959 and the revised Monico plan, 1968's design and its updated version in 1972

## At last a facelift for old faithful

Piccadilly Circus is undergoing a £100m redevelopment.  
Charles Kneivitt, Architecture Correspondent, looks

at the London landmark that was once the 'hub of the Empire'

Reconstruction of London's Piccadilly Circus will be well on its way to completion by the time Eros returns home as the centre-piece of a new pedestrian plaza next spring. More than £100m is being spent above and below ground on what was once the 'hub of the Empire'; yet its surroundings will still be very familiar.

The circus is undergoing the biggest transformation since the scythe of Shaftesbury Avenue was built a century ago. In an example of planning every bit as ruthless as Baron Haussmann in Paris, the traffic engineers cut a path through the slums, displacing 3,000 people, to ease congestion. The new road also destroyed the symmetry of Nash's Regent Circus South for ever.

But in 1980, after a succession of controversial schemes for the future of the area, the Greater London Council finally started to implement a 'least chance' policy. Popular landmarks are being retained and new buildings are springing up behind the listed facades facing the circus. Eros is to be relocated to a new pedestrian area, 30ft south of its former site; and the underground station, the largest in London, is being extensively modernised at a cost of £11m.

Piccadilly Circus has always attracted attention which far

outweighs its primary function as a busy and congested roundabout and transport interchange. Alfred Gilbert's statue of the Angel of Christian Charity at the top of the Shaftesbury Memorial Fountain - as Eros the symbol of London and a national talisman - has contributed much to its reputation.

Gilbert, aged 32, when he was commissioned in 1886, was adamant that the memorial to Anthony Ashley Cooper, seventh Earl of Shaftesbury, was not going to be a 'coat and trousers' job but something symbolic. That a naked boy

**'Eros was called the ugliest statue in any European capital'**

should represent the Victorian philanthropist was thought improper by many, if not downright immoral, when it was unveiled in 1893.

Letters to *The Times* called it the ugliest monument in any European capital, the figure more suited to the Oxford Street music hall.

International fame also rests on the electric advertising which has been a feature of the

circus since the 1890s. The illuminated sign for Mellin's food is thought to have been the first, but one of the most famous was a 30ft high illuminated poster for Horlick's featuring a giant picture of Lady Margaret Strickland and the caption: "Do you suffer from night starvation?"

Years later Lady Strickland retold the story of Jimmy Horlick and her father travelling past the advertisement in a taxi. "Have you seen my advertisement up there?" inquired Horlick. "Yes," replied Lady Strickland, "that's my daughter".

The underground opened in 1906 and the following year was used by one and a half million people. By 1922 it was handling 18 million and soon a labyrinth of tunnels criss-crossed beneath the new Art Deco concourse.

If what happened underground did not cause much of a stir, the string of plans for above ground most certainly did.

Although there was a 1910 plan to turn the circus into King Edward VII Square, and a 1942 plan for a new piazza, it was when the threat became real that voices were raised in shrill protest.

On October 26, 1959, the LCC approved a scheme by Jack Cotton, the property developer, for a large new building on the Monico site; but

for a small technicality - on parking provision - it seems certain that it would have been built.

But against advice, on the following day, Cotton announced his plan prematurely at a press conference and an artist's sketch was published in *The Times*. It showed the design for a 172ft high office block, crowned with a permanent crane to lift advertising on to its hoardings.

Criticism rained down from MPs, peers, the public and the Royal Fine Art Commission, (which did a deft volte face) and the Minister of Housing, Henry Brooke, called a public inquiry. In desperation, Cotton even commissioned eminent architect Walter Gropius to lend weight to his plans, but to no avail.

Scheme after scheme was proposed by the LCC and then GLC, by Sir William (later Lord) Holford, and Westminster City Council. The 1968 plan was described recently by the GLC itself as a sort of cross between "Gotham City and ancient Babylon".

A 1972 scheme, a modified version of the 1968 one, was greeted with even greater howls of protest than Cotton's and was immediately abandoned.

Then, in 1974, the GLC planning committee accepted a plan which would leave the circus visually almost untouched. That formed the basis of what started to become the reality of Piccadilly Circus's future from 1980 onwards.

The circus has been saved from the depths of depravity which only a little while ago threatened its livelihood as one of London's most popular meeting places and tourist attractions. Let's hope that some of the old character of the place will remain along with its familiar facades. For what it has always possessed - and is one of its most endearing qualities - is an "honest vulgarity" impossible to recreate artificially.

### PICCADILLY CIRCUS FROM 1819 TO PRESENT DAY

1819 Regent Circus South, an elegant circle of town houses, built by John Nash.  
1874 The Criterion opened.  
1880 Renamed Piccadilly Circus.  
1885 London Pavilion opened.  
1886 Shaftesbury Avenue opened.  
1886 Shaftesbury Memorial commissioned.

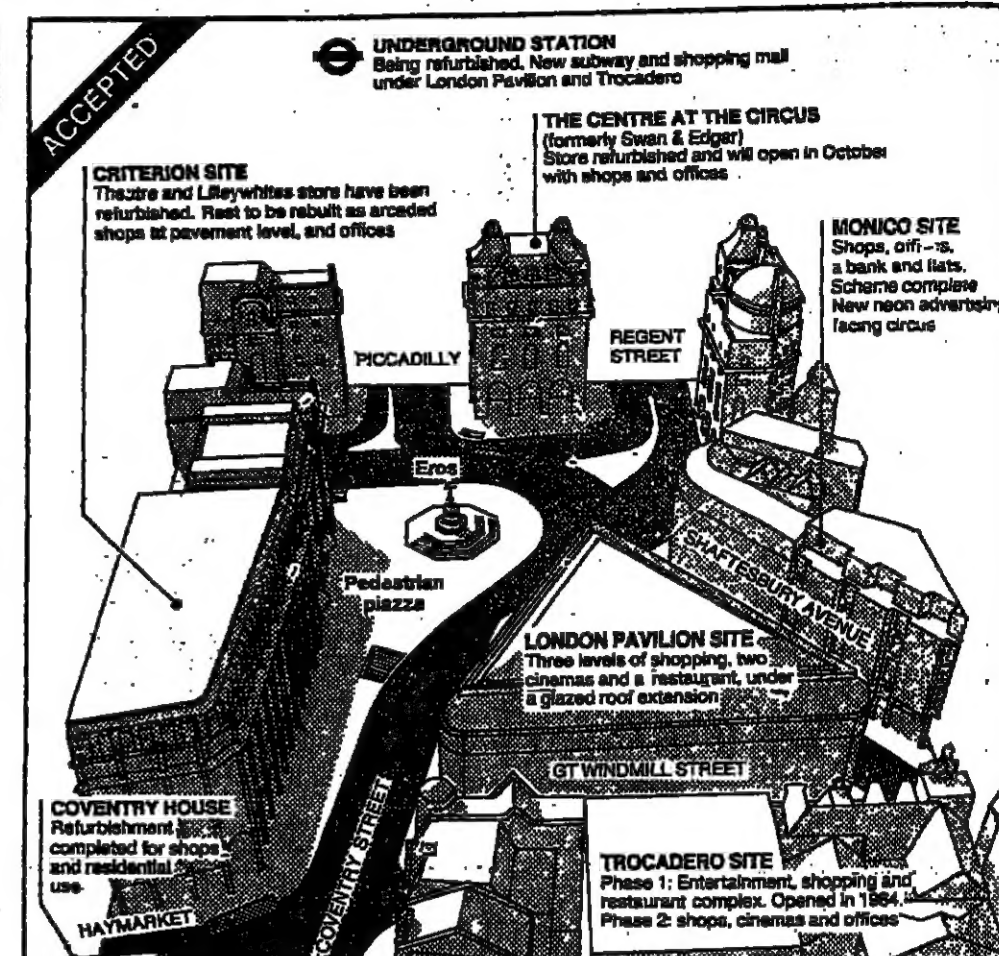
1893 Alfred Gilbert's memorial unveiled.  
1896 Lyons opened Trocadero.  
1903 Treasury set up a committee to decide the future of the circus.  
Architect Norman Shaw appointed and produced several schemes.  
Over the next 20 years much of the Piccadilly side and Regent Street quadrant rebuilt by Shaw's pupil Sir Reginald Blomfield, after stuccoed Nash terraces torn down.

1906 Piccadilly Circus underground station opened.  
1925 The first set of electric traffic lights installed in the circus. Eros removed to Embankment Gardens for work to start on the reconstruction of the underground.  
1928 Charles Holden's underground station reopened. Rebuilt: Café Royal opens.

1931 Eros returned to a site slightly east of its original location.  
1939 Eros removed to Cooper's Hill, Egham, at the outbreak of war.  
1947 Eros returned to the circus.  
1958 London County Council discusses its scheme for the comprehensive redevelopment of Piccadilly Circus with developers.  
1959 The Times published an artist's impression of the new office block for the Monico site, causing a public furor. Turned down after a public inquiry.

1962 Sir William Holford commissioned by the LCC to produce an overall plan. The Government rejected it.  
1965 Sir William (now Lord) Holford resubmitted to write second report.

1968 Public exhibition of latest modified plan, including a 435ft tower on the Criterion site, an upside-down ziggurat on the Trocadero site, and Eros perched on a pedestrian deck.  
1972 Westminster mount second public exhibition. Uproar. Scheme abandoned.



Reconstruction programme (pictured above)

1985 February: Traffic redirected down Great Windmill Street. Start on subway one of London Transport underground concourse improvement. October: Swan and Edgar reopens as The Centre at the Circus; details of the new shopping complex will be released.  
1986 spring: Eros will return to the Circus from its temporary residence at the Royal Festival Hall.

1973 New brief published by Westminster, giving four different options.  
1974 GLC planning committee recommend acceptance of the "latest change" layout.  
1977 London Pavilion cleaned and repainted for Queen's Silver Jubilee and listed for preservation.

1980 Current scheme finally approved by the GLC. All familiar landmarks retained. The key sites redeveloped behind existing facades. Eros relocated closer to the Criterion and as the focus of a new pedestrian plaza. Traffic routes to be completely modernised to handle

30 million people a year and new subways and access points provided from the circus above. Pedestrian area at ground level increased by almost two-thirds. Below ground a network of shopping malls will connect all the sites with the underground station. Completion due in 1988.

## The trial of having to prove you really mean to marry

Balwinder Kaur is 19, a tall, thin, timid Sikh girl. She comes from a large family of eight brothers and sisters in Darford. Her father, Gurmit Singh, arrived in England from the Punjab in 1963 and worked in a processing plant in Kent until it closed down three years ago. He is now unemployed. Balwinder Kaur has only once been to India.

In the mid-1970s Gurmit Singh, having arranged marriages for his two elder daughters, started looking out for a good match for his third girl. There was never any question that it would be anything other than an arranged marriage - the custom in all Sikh households. "My grandfather, my father, I myself - not one of us saw our wives before the wedding day", says Gurmit Singh.

In 1977 he heard good reports of a boy in New Delhi. So when later that year the family travelled to India, he visited the boy and his mother and introduced them to Balwinder Kaur. The two children appeared to like each other; the match seemed right and Gurmit Singh returned to Darford content. "He was just the kind of boy for me, Smart. Good looking. Educated. And I knew that he had a cousin in Leicester with a clothing factory where he could find work."

The usual steps then followed. Photographs were exchanged and letters began arriving from the boy. In January, 1978, he wrote to Balwinder: "Accept my hellos with love. What you have written to me about travelling in an aeroplane makes me so happy. I have great hopes of travelling the same." Early in 1980, he started signing himself "your life's partner".

By then all formalities had been concluded; the engagement was official, sealed by a gift of fruit and money. On April 17, 1982, Balwinder Singh - the two young people share the same first name - applied to



Downcast: Gurmit Singh with daughter Balwinder Kaur

the British High Commission in New Delhi for entry clearance to come to the United Kingdom to marry his fiancée.

It was then that the two families fell foul of one of the more Byzantine and discriminatory of the British immigration laws: the "primary purpose" ruling. Up until 1983 the British official giving entry clearance in, say, New Delhi, could do so unless he had reason to believe that the first interest of the man requesting it was not marriage but settlement in Britain. Under the new ruling, spurred on by those wanting to cut immigration and fearful of rising unemployment, the burden of proof has swung full circle: the official must now refuse entry unless the applicant can convince him that his first reason for marriage is not that he wishes to settle in the UK.

Women, by contrast, whether wives or fiancées, continue to have few difficulties. Stefanie Grant, of the United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service, says the "primary purpose" hurdles and confusions are causing considerable anxiety within immigrant communities. People fear that their daughters born in Britain, speaking only English, could never fit in the unfamiliar world of the Indian

subcontinent, and that if the rules are rigidly applied they are going to undermine their entire marriage customs.

Balwinder Singh did not do well at his interview. According to the report of the New Delhi Entry Clearance Officer, he knew little of his prospective family. The report claimed that he said that with such an arranged marriage "he could improve his economic circumstances" and that this was "the principal reason for seeking admission to the UK". The official refused entry clearance.

The debate moved next to the office of the Immigration Officers in Gravesend. Here, in the summer of 1983, Gurmit Singh and his daughter were summoned to give their version of events. Gurmit Singh remembers the occasion with horror. "It was like a dictatorship. They tried to upset everything we said. They asked Balwinder Kaur if she had ever seen the boy. She said yes. But the man did not seem to take much notice of this. I felt inferior."

Last month matters reached the Immigration Appeal Courts in London. The adjudicator was Mr E. H. T. Housden and there was a presenting officer for the Home Office and Peter Moss, from the UKIAS, representing Balwinder Singh. Mr Housden was to rule on whether Balwinder Singh's "primary purpose" was to marry his fiancée, or to gain entry to the UK; and on whether, as the rules require the two had ever "met".

The question of this "meeting", in particular, was important. Having recently ruled against a young couple who had met only at the ages of four and two, he wanted to make it plain that someone had to satisfy him that a meeting had taken place "within the context of marriage". The subtleties of this argument and distinction, for people for whom marriage can be contracted only by arrange-

ment, were, not surprisingly, obscure.

Balwinder Kaur read her affirmation, in a whispered rush. Mr Housden asked Peter Moss whether the girl spoke English. He was told that Balwinder Kaur had been born, raised and done all her schooling in England, and thus spoke nothing else. "Regrettably", declared Mr Housden, "that does not follow. There are people from Bangladesh and Poland who have been here for 25 years who speak no English."

The whole tone is so demeaning, said Peter Moss afterwards. "It's as if people forget: Miss Kaur is a British citizen." At the end, Mr Housden indicated that he felt he would apply the same yardstick as in his previous case, and would announce that, for immigration purposes, Balwinder Singh and his fiancée had never met. In a marriage contract they had been 13 and 11 respectively in 1977.

If the case goes on to an Immigration Appeal Tribunal, and that fails, in theory at least, there is still one more hope for Balwinder Singh: he can apply for a judicial review in the Divisional Court. For it is here, before a judge, that just such a case, failed at every hoop, has been sitting for some time. The outcome, of Vinod Bhatia's

appeal is being watched intently throughout the legal world: it is the first "primary purpose" ruling to reach the Divisional Court, and thus a test case.

Vijay Kumari is a divorced, 29-year-old Indian woman, a British citizen, with a 13-year-old daughter whose father advertised in the *Hindustan Times* in February, 1980, for a second husband for her, and received an answer from Vinod Bhatia in Delhi. At every step he has been refused entry clearance to come to Britain to marry her. At the Immigration Appeal Tribunal one member pronounced in favour of letting him come; the other two came down against. It is believed that on Wednesday Mr Justice Forbes will deliver judgment in the Divisional Court.

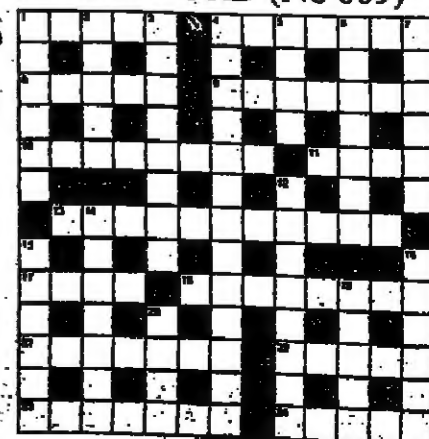
What lies at the heart of the case, of course, is not simply a matter of immigration ruling, but the way in which society views and treats the customs of its minority groups. Is it right that one society can impose its value judgments and attitudes towards marriage on the ancient traditions of another? One defence lawyer observed that it appears to be another example of "Britain's failure to care for and adapt to the immigrant communities that live here."

Caroline Moorehead

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 609)

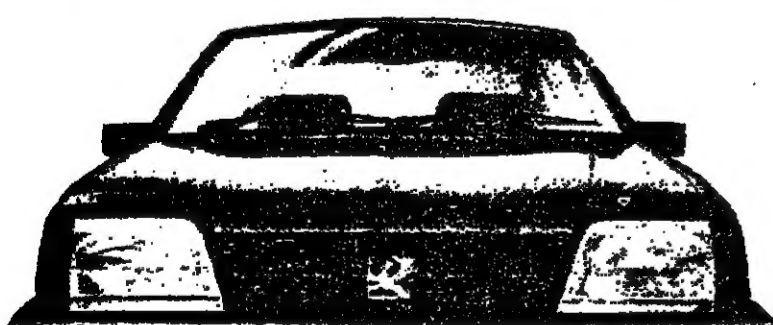
ACROSS  
1 Russian cottage (5)  
4 Decade (7)  
8 Flight (5)  
9 Ancestral descent (7)  
10 Relativity theorist (6)  
11 Wine (4)  
13 Iroquois (4,7)  
17 Aztec (4)  
18 Robber (8)  
21 Speak about (7)  
22 Lustre (5)  
23 Distinguished (7)  
24 Islamic civil final (5)

DOWN  
1 Altered soundtrack (6)  
2 Metal links (5)  
3 Assigned (5)  
4 Global company (13)  
5 Of sound mind (4)



6 High spirits (7)  
7 Demanded (6)  
12 Conversation (8)  
14 Naive girl (7)  
15 Sulky mood (6)  
16 Crucial state (6)  
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**PENNY  
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to slither away and head for the kitchen and a lengthy examination of his hostess's vegetable rack when he is aware of a delicious aroma filling his nostrils, immediately bringing home to him memories of the haunch of venison with crushed juniper for supper the previous weekend. "I say," he whispers to the young woman, conscious of the scent of juniper rising from her decolletage, "I wonder if you would like to come back to my place and see my custom-made knife block".

It could mean a comeback for intimacy, as once we knew it, especially if Herbissimo expands its range to include True Thyme, Promise of Paprika and Whisper of Vinegar.

*Sir Terence Conran has told me off, very politely, for saying that he wanted the sales assistants in his newly acquired Richard Shops to look prettier than the customers. He said it wasn't like that at all and put me straight on to Mr Tony Stafford of Richard Shops so I could find out his exact requirements.*

Mr Stafford assured me that there was no age limit and no size limit apart from the proviso that "we like our staff to be nice to look at. It is essential that they have fashion sense and a hair-style commensurate with the type of merchandise that we sell."

Alas, that was not all that Mr Stafford said. With charming enthusiasm, he proceeded to tell me that his staff were urged to treat customers as though they were "guinea pigs at a party" and that on one occasion training officers had worn party hats and a "bubbly" atmosphere had prevailed. Worse still, he didn't want his sales assistants to feel like sales assistants and so they were kitted out in the shops' own merchandise, albeit in sizes 8-16. Perversely, perhaps, I want sales assistants to feel and to act like sales assistants during shop-opening hours. I would also like them plainly dressed in something rather out of date. Deprived of this fantasy, I might feel mean enough to rush down to a "Richards Shops" corner a "silly" coffee, a fashion-conscious "silly" assistant, a "silly" party atmosphere where some dead party is asking for "something similar to what you're wearing but four sizes smaller."

on their successful  
partnership

Ever since *Requiem's* world premiere in New York five weeks ago – featuring opera superstar Plácido Domingo; the company's wife Sarah Brightman, 12-year-old chorister Paul Miles-Kingston; Lorin Maazel conducting the English Chamber Orchestra and the choir of Winchester Cathedral – the Lloyd Webbers have been living in a constant state of surprise. *Requiem* was, after all, Lloyd Webber's first major classical work and intended to be a rather personal thing, incorporating some of his most private feelings and dedicated to his late father, a leading church organist and director of the London College of Music.

**6 I don't listen to much music. Most of the time I worry about my own?**

He still gets annoyed at suggestions that Sarah got the soprano role because she is his wife. In fact, he insists, it was conductor Lorin Maazel's decision after they had discussed "six really established sopranos" for the part. Maazel felt that Sarah was right to achieve the correct blend of sound for the *Pie Jesu*, the movement which has been released as a single. "I did privately agree," admits Lloyd Webber.

It is a year since they married in

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a man in a dark shirt, possibly a uniform, standing in front of a building with horizontal siding. The image is heavily stylized with a grainy, high-contrast effect, making details difficult to discern. The man is positioned on the left side of the frame, and the building is on the right. The overall tone is dark and gritty.

**Andrew and Sarah:** Marriage has made him more relaxed, she's become more obsessive

# Living in perfect pitch and two-part harmony

Having her singing in *Requiem* increased his normal anxiety before the first performance in front of the New York glitterati at St Thomas's Church on Fifth Avenue, although he insists: "I was not nervous about Sarah not being able to perform it. Anyone who could dance *Cats* for 500 performances is capable of delivering technically because of the discipline that's there. But I was obviously keen that she should be accepted in her

**Soprano stars: Sarah Lloyd Webber and Paul Miles-Kingston**

use it anyway. . . .  
 "My marriage has changed them both. . . . I want to work towards things more than I've ever wanted to in my life. . . . She says, 'You could spend all day just learning things.' Andrew gets so working twelve hours after five days if he's not working and a little bit that he's not off on a nice trip."  
 She notices that Andrew has become more relaxed with other people. It is something she envies. "Being shy herself, she dreads having to entertain Andrew's friends and business associates. "I get really scared before people come round. I have to force myself to speak and tend to gable."  
 Andrew Lloyd Webber's reputation

It is a measure of both his talent and the magic of the Lloyd Webber name that this Latin dirge should be proving him so dramatically wrong. *Requiem* has been compared to the works of 27 different composers, four

He is beginning to turn his creative thoughts towards... the cinema - perhaps a musical version of *The Phantom of the Opera* starring his wife. Sarah's influence has made him increasingly fascinated by opera as a musical form, and he was intrigued to discover that there is "almost an extra octave to play with" when you are dealing with a trained operatic voice. He senses the stirrings of a "tremendous new appreciation of opera among younger people and the public at large."

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Wales and the  
Prime Minister  
are leading**

## the footwear revival



The Princess of Wales in 1981 and more recently. Mrs Thatcher in 1975 and 1984

the Empire State Building; the latter drowning pages of his neo-Nabokovian prose to audiences rivetted by the tiny ironist's *bottines*.

A new mood of fervent athleticism swept the nation.

Slowly, however, the tide began to turn. As inflation rose; so did heels. The first sign of a break from the flatlic phalanx came from the Princess of Wales herself after her tour of Australia - when the Princess

Perversely, both Elton John and Martin Amis chose the same time to abandon the platform show. Soon after, Mr Jim Fixx the "high priest of jogging" dropped dead of a heart-attack in America, and it became impossible to find any such less than a one-act appendage to the beat. However, Mrs Thatcher has continued to outstrip everyone else. At a recent sighting, her characteristic walk - that of someone peering through a Force 10 gale - was enhanced by heels no less than two-and-a-half inches high, fully three quarters of an inch longer than the start of the miners' strike. Mr Scargill may whinge about jackboots, but the real question now is: how much longer can she go on before being toppled?

**Amanda Craig**

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1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.



# THE TIMES DIARY

## Not quite so Special

The Commons Home Affairs committee doubtless congratulated itself on diverting attention from its anodyne draft report on the Special Branch by having me referred to the Committee of Privileges for leaking it. Now that the fuss is over, however, and PHS has been found "in serious contempt of the House", I shall return to that report. Much has been happening while my attention was diverted. The original draft report, which made not the slightest criticism of the Special Branch, has been scrapped. It has been replaced by a version that expresses mild concern about allegations made in the banned Channel 4 *20/20* Union programme, but is still too bland to mollify the committee's Labour MPs. One of them, David Winnick, has produced a minority report that is overtly critical of the Special Branch but stands no chance of being adopted. Another may produce a compromise report that would state the committee has reached no definite conclusions but will keep the subject under review. For "whitewash", substitute "fudge".

## Stop press

The fuss may be over, but members of the privileges committee, whose proceedings were also referred to me, remain highly sensitive to the charge that they could have been the leaker. Witness one exchange recorded by *Hansard* last week. John Biffen, chairman of the privileges committee, said during a debate that he was sure the matter under discussion "will feature in the *Times* diary tomorrow". "Too late," interjected Tory MP Gerry Malone, meaning that the diary deadline for that day had already passed. "I am grateful for that comment," remarks the innocence of my relationship with the *Times* diary," remarked Biffen.

● How transitory is fame. In the Seventies Roddy Llewellyn was Princess Margaret's celebrated escort. On Saturday he was to be found in Clapham opening the Hambro Contact Centre playgroup jumble sale.

## Fidel's guest

Ken Livingstone will not be around to see if the Lords savage the GLC abolition bill - as they did the paving bill - during its crucial second reading on April 15. To the consternation of his campaign unit, he leaves at Easter for a two-week holiday in Cuba. With Brent East set to select him as its parliamentary candidate at the end of the month, could it be that his interest in the GLC is waning?

## All clear

Macmillan published - and have now been damned. The book was David Lodge's novel *Out of the Shelter*, the year, 1970. Last week Secker republished the novel, and Lodge uses the introduction to chronicle with ill-disguised glee Macmillan's bungs. The text was "drastically cut", he recalls, and, for speed and economy, was set by computer. Three times the proof had to be delayed. The book was finally published at the worst possible time of year for reviews. He had great trouble getting an advance copy. When he did, he found it "riddled" with "grotesquely obvious" misprints and textual errors; the computer had been unable to cope with italics; the lines were bumpy and the spacing uneven. "In short, it was the most hideous piece of printing that I had ever set my eyes on," writes Lodge. Revenge is evidently sweet.

BARRY FANTONI



"Personally I thought the wax version showed more life"

## Barbed wires

The Foreign Affairs Select Committee is intrigued by a rare display of hesitancy by Sir Geoffrey Howe. Two weeks after a unanimous vote, it asked him for all telegrams sent from Lima and Washington to the Foreign Office during the crucial weekend in 1982 when the Belgrano was sunk. These would prove whether - as Alexander Haig claims and Francis Pym denies - Britain and Argentina had agreed the Peruvian peace plan in principle before it was scuppered by the sinking, and whether - as Haig also claims - our man in Peru, Charles Wallace, "was in on every bit of the negotiations". So far the committee has heard nothing from Sir Geoffrey. Curiously, Sir Pym also asked for the telegrams when compiling the "Crown Jewels"; he received only those sent after the sinking.

PHS

# What prospects for Peacock?

by Ian Trethowan

When the BBC asked for a £65 licence fee last autumn, I was frequently asked how much I thought it would get. I replied, £58. Clairvoyance? Another Whitehall leak? No, cynicism born from personal experience of several licence fee negotiations.

Over the years the exercise has followed a well-worn pattern. The BBC works out what fee it needs to meet the increased cost of its current operations - £x. It knows, however, that if it asks for precisely that figure it will only get £x minus 4 or 5. It therefore adds another £5 or so to pay for various measures of expansion which are highly desirable but not essential, and announces that it wants a licence fee of £x + 5.

Shock, horror. Politicians denounce it, the newspapers write caustic leaders and tell their reporters to dig up examples of BBC extravagance. Various draconian alternatives are proposed. One by one each alternative is found to be impracticable and in the end the Government grudgingly concedes a licence fee of £x, give or take the odd pound, depending on whether the BBC has done something silly during the crucial weeks of decision.

Four years ago the BBC asked for a £50 licence fee. It assumed the Government would grant something in the mid 40s, and the final figure of £46 was thought at the time reasonably comfortable for a period when inflation was moving down to around 5 per cent.

What has happened over the intervening years is instructive. Broadcasting costs have risen much more quickly than general inflation, and the reason is not far to seek. The ITV companies have a monopoly of television advertising, so they can charge the advertisers what they like. This means they can make a lot of money but it also means they can be held to ransom by their unions. If the BBC is to compete for the talent and skill it needs, it has to keep at least within sight of ITV levels.

This is where the Peacock Committee might usefully begin its inquiry. The financing of the BBC is inseparable from that of ITV and Channel 4. Together they form a

matrix which, for all its weaknesses, still provides the best television in the world. Try to change one piece too drastically, and the whole system could fall apart.

I suspect the BBC has again been lucky in its Home Secretary. Like Lord Whitelaw before him, Mr Brittan is a fair-minded man. Unlike The Times - which called for an inquiry and proposed that the BBC should be dismembered - Mr Brittan seems to have agreed that pending the outcome of the inquiry, it was sensible to let the BBC maintain at least its existing services.

The BBC will now have to refigure over a longer period some of the battles it has been waging through the winter. Why can't it take advertising, at least on Radio 1, and perhaps on BBC 1? Why doesn't it leave local radio to the commercial stations? Why does it try to compete, at breakfast time?

One sympathizes over the advertising agencies over the ITV monopoly of television commercials. The answer is not to force the BBC to take advertising, however, but to split ITV and Channel 4 so that they would compete for advertising revenue. Channel 4 should now be strong enough to hold its own in the marketplace.

If the BBC were forced to take advertising, even if at first only in one area, all experience shows that it would in due course spread right across the service. No government would ever again increase the licence fee; indeed there would be pressure to cut it. If the BBC were forced to compete for advertising with the independent sector both would be driven to reach down for the lowest common denominator, particularly during peak hours.

Sponsorship might be difficult. A number of BBC programmes are half-sponsored already. Few of the big sports events would attract commercial sponsors if the firms concerned were not assured of television coverage. When BBC programmes are broadcast on

American television there is often a commercial sponsor of that particular slot.

Clearly it would not be acceptable for the BBC to sponsor a documentary on the oil industry or Boots one on drugs but it would be harmless for either to help pay for a series of classical plays. There would be danger that programme schedules would be dictated by the requirements of sponsorship rather than by pure editorial and creative standards, but already the shape of the schedules is sharply affected by financial considerations. How much sponsorship money might be available is unknown - perhaps not a lot - but at least it might help in the most prestigious programme areas.

The BBC could do with a *Brideshead* or a *Jewel in the Crown*. As the growth of the little community stations is showing, radio's distinctive role today is to serve smaller communities that could never be covered viably by television. The BBC should maintain its presence there, if necessary by economising on network radio, not least because the local stations are crucial to the BBC's national news service. Personally I would not object to putting the BBC's stations at further arm's length from Portland Place, and then allowing them to take some advertising, but outside the main conurbations this could seriously damage the commercial radio stations and the local press. In many areas it is hard enough to sustain one commercial radio station, let alone two.

As for breakfast television, the BBC was itself initially reluctant to open up at breakfast time. As the morning after the Brighton bombing showed very clearly, however, if there was to be any television at that time then a national broadcasting organization had to be on the air.

Whether the programmes offered at that time have to be as trite as *Breakfast Time* is another matter. A programme on the lines of the excellent *Six O'Clock News* might not have attracted as many viewers, but it would have been more

politically defensible, and it might not so summarily have torpedoed poor Peter Jay's decent ambitions for TV news.

Whether the Peacock committee's terms of reference will allow it to look at the licence fee system as a whole is not clear. Mr Stuart Young's plea for broadening the base of the licence fee is worth studying. A car radio licence, in particular, would be easily enforceable and would bring in a respectable income.

I remain convinced that there is not much mileage in the BBC taking advertising and that the licence fee system should be maintained. In that case I hope there will be some fresh thinking about the way the level is fixed. When I was Director General I proposed that, as in West Germany, the BBC's applications should be studied by an independent review body equipped both to judge the BBC's efficiency and to make some measured assessment of its aspirations. Its recommendations would not be binding - the ultimate decision on any matter of taxation must rest with Parliament - but at least Parliament would have before it a careful, thorough evaluation.

At first I drew some private encouragement from Whitehall, but in the end the idea was laid gently to rest in some official pigeonhole. It would be difficult to choose the members of such a body. I was told, and the more authoritative they were, the more they would in practice circumscribe Parliament's choice.

If sensible decisions are to be taken about the role of the BBC, and indeed about broadcasting in general, some less capricious system needs to be devised for dealing with its finances. Beeb-bashing is a well established national sport, and the corporation should not be too sensitive. The power exercised on a modern society by what can appear on its television sets is so awesome, however, that changes in the major broadcasting institutions should only be attempted on the basis of the most thorough and careful study.

Sir Ian Trethowan was Director General of the BBC 1977-82.

# When home-grown is undermined

Anne Sofer

I have always noticed, reading 18th and 19th century English novels - and even early 20th century ones - how easily people of modest means seem to find somewhere to live in London. From the Nickleby family to G. Wallis's Ann Veronica, they arrive as wide-eyed innocents in the big city and although they rapidly find its streets are not paved with gold, there is nonetheless a set of rooms or a "simple lodging" to be found after a few hours' enquiry.

Fiction may paint a rosy picture, of course, but the real recollections of older people who came to London 30 or more years ago attest to the greater flexibility of the past. The change is part of the long decline of the private rented sector, a matter of hot political debate. But whatever the cause, the trend is certainly proving hard to reverse. Conservative legislation attempting to do so has proved ineffective.

The huge gap that exists now in most of central London between council housing with long waiting lists and flats for sale at prices only the rich can afford is not just a problem for the individual concerned: it is a problem for society itself.

It is certainly not a problem that has come upon us unawares. It has been discussed for at least 20 years, and various experimental solutions have been tried. One of the earliest and most ambitious of these was the Fairhazel Housing Cooperative, whose brief history and present tribulations I write about this morning.

Fairhazel occupies a stretch of the late Victorian red-brick streets that run off to the west of the Finchley Road beyond Swiss Cottage. There are large bourgeois family houses, and some of the first purpose-built blocks of flats. Speaking tubes and boards of bell-indicators in the lofty kitchens attest to the social aspirations of the original residents, but by the middle of this century the area had come down in the world: it was the main area of settlement for Jewish refugees from Central Europe, and a popular young peoples' bedsitter land until it began to go up-market again a couple of decades ago.

Fairhazel was the first group to register as a cooperative under the 1974 Housing Act. The original members aspired to create an oasis of reasonably priced, self-managed property in what was rapidly becoming a very expensive area. In those more hopeful times it managed to inspire a degree of official support - even enthusiasm - that made its original establishment easy, compared to what came later. With funding from the Department of the Environment, channelled as a loan from the local borough, it acquired a portfolio of property worth over £10 million. None of the members of the co-op has a personal stake in the capital, only rights as tenants and shared responsibilities to manage. Rents are set on a "fair rent" basis by the rent officer.

The buildings, like so much of the late 19th century building boom,

were by this time in need of major renovation; and the Department of the Environment agreed that a five-stage improvement programme should begin, to be concluded by 1982. As they were converted the houses yielded more units through sub-division. These extra units, as well as casual vacancies, were offered to people who had waited for years on the council housing list and almost given up hope. Meanwhile, over the years, the organization set up a playgroup, founded a magazine, laid out communal space for recreation, and generally became a beacon to the cooperative housing movement.

The development programme itself, however, has turned into a nightmare. There were lengthy wrangles at every stage over the costs, with DoE yardsticks eventually winning the day over local advice. The result is that, in no fewer than three of the four stages so far completed, dry-rot has had to be dealt with expensively after the properties had been renovated. Arguments over the costing of the fifth stage are still dragging on, three years after the project was supposed to be completed.

Meanwhile, the bricks and mortar have found it impossible to wait for bureaucracy, and the corner of one building is sliding into the road. In September 1983 the district surveyor pronounced it a dangerous structure, served a notice on Fairhazel to demolish and rebuild, and ordered emergency scaffolding. It has been there ever since; the bill has been picked up by the DoE and amounts, so far, to £20,000. Thieves have found the scaffolding a great convenience and have climbed up to the roof and stolen the lead. An elderly couple, founder-members of the co-op who have patiently waited for their stage of the renovation to be reached, are sleeping in their top floor flat under tarpaulin.

Meanwhile the district surveyor has lost patience and is taking the co-op to court. If Fairhazel does not carry out the work, which it has every wish to do, it could be fined (bill to the DoE again) or forced to sell up. The burden of the housing the evicted families would fall on the local authority, which already has a six-month backlog.

It is the impression of those who run Fairhazel that the DoE wants to help but has the cold breath of the Treasury blowing down its neck. The conversion work is expensive; that was known from the start when the department gave its approval in principle. The only possible way in which it could be made to pay in the short term would be for a developer to create luxury flats which foreign companies would buy for their visiting executives.

That would no doubt make sense to the Treasury: no charge on public funds, good for the export figures, just what the country needs. But who is weighing the social costs? And are those who disdain to do so - one must ask on this day of all days - the wise men or the fools?

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

moreover... Miles Kington

## As queasy as ABC...

In all the excitement over Aida, it is often forgotten that many other perfectly valid though less sensational ailments are being discovered by science all the time, and sometimes being invented by it as well. Here is an A to Z of the most recent.

**Agoraphobia:** the fear of Greek marketplaces, from "agora" meaning a Greek marketplace and "phobia," meaning a tendency to shut yourself up in your bedroom for weeks on end. Agora is also a small piece of Israeli money, and doctors have occasionally reported people who have a real fear of small Israeli coins. Only one case has been fatal: that of a person who handed small Israeli coins in a Greek marketplace.

**Biographia Nervosa:** a compulsive desire on the part of actors and actresses to list every production they have ever been in for a theatre programme, without even mentioning their date of birth.

**Credentia Bands:** The irrational feeling that one is on the wrong train, usually accompanied by a feeling that even if one is on the right train, it won't stop at the right station.

**Dyslexia Personalis:** an inability to master names. This usually takes the form of calling one's children by one's pet's names, or addressing present spouse by name of previous spouse, or not being able to remember which Lloyd-Webber is which.

**Eisenstein's Fallacy:** the persistent tendency to set out for an appointment at the very time one is meant to be there. In extreme cases the patient does not set out at all, but rings up to say he is ill.

**Elevated Vision:** the tendency to go around looking up. This is caused by having been harassed, as a baby, in one of those carriers strapped to the parent's chest, so that you could see nothing except upwards. This also produces Heartbeat Deficiency.

**Facilitate:** the irrational belief that the nice pictures of people stuck up outside passport photo booths were actually taken in that booth.

**Genova Block:** the chronic inability to understand why Ronald Reagan thinks it will help disarmament talks if he makes many more weapons first.

**Heartbeat Deficiency:** many babies, if they have been strapped close to their parent's chest, where they can hear their parent's heart beating, grow up convinced they need two heartbeats. This leads them to wear a personal stereo system, with the

drummer playing the part of their missing mother. See *Personal Stereoids*.

**Informants:** the compulsion to stay behind in a cinema and read the credits to the bitter end.

**Jackie's Fallacy:** The deluded belief that the photograph on a book jacket resembles the writer of the book, or indeed that the blur resembles the contents.

**Kingston's Syndrome:** the tendency to put passport, visa and tickets in a safe place, and then mislay the safe place.

**Labelitis:** chronic over-moistening of the tongue, causing stamps to fall off envelopes.

**Maggiesomania:** the delusion that everything one says is right.

**Neil's Disease:** the delusion that everything someone else says is wrong.

**Owen's Syndrome:** a pathological combination of the previous two. *Personal Stereoids:* the compulsion to wear personal stereos in trains and the belief that nobody else can hear them. The only cure is to throw the patient out of the train.

**Questionitis:** the compulsive belief that Magnus Magnusson already knew the answers to all the questions he asks on *Mastermind*, that Robert Robinson uses all the *Call My Bluff* words in everyday conversation, etc.

**Rampant Paranoia:** the urge to leave Fire Doors wedged open, to leave ashtrays in rooms containing No Smoking signs, to put Pull signs on doors which open both ways, etc.

**Stapler's Sickness:** injury caused by the repeated removal of staples with fingernails, leading to infection, gangrene, death and even possible loss of clerical job.

**Tegula Eye:** injury to the retina caused by cocktail parasols.

**Undistributed Middle:** abdominal swelling caused by vanity, ie a belt or pair of trousers several sizes smaller than your waistline.

**Viking Syndrome:** a compulsive urge to prove that America was discovered far earlier than anyone suspects.

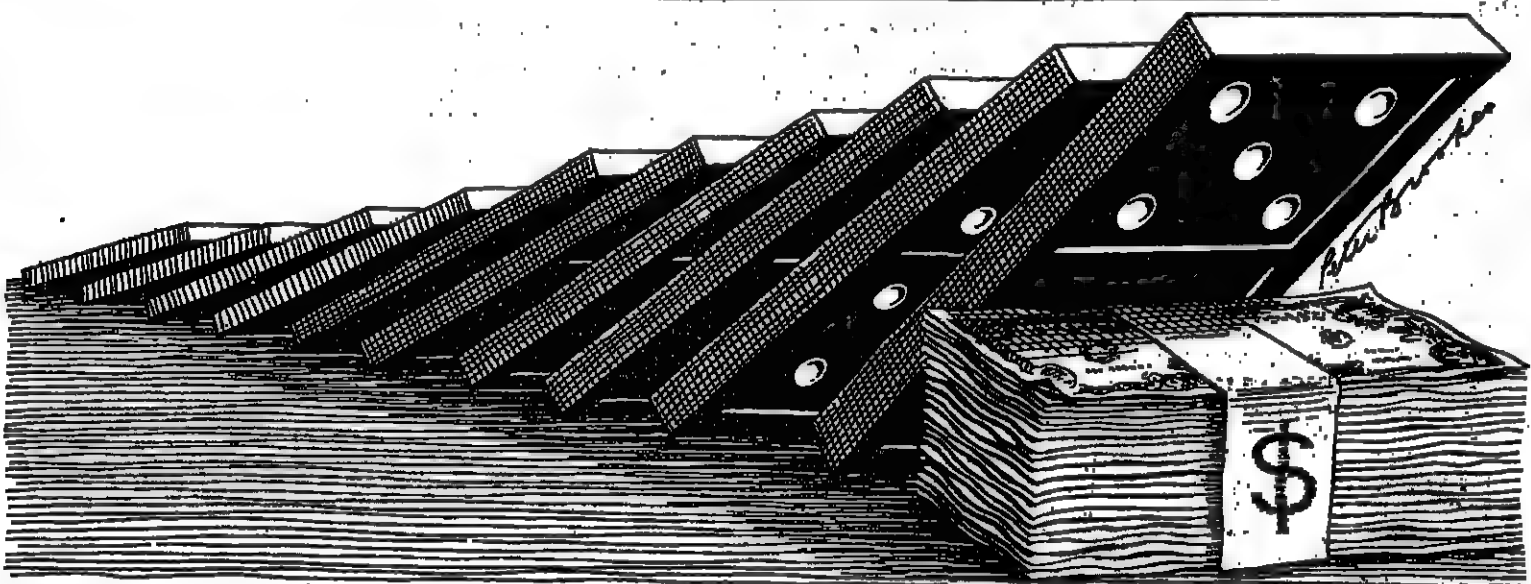
**Water On The Thigh:** an unpleasant rash caused by Perrier-sodden nappies.

**X-Ray Syndrome:** persistent over-excitement at being searched by airport security officials.

**Yelling Fever:** total breakdown of nervous system following humiliating failure to open a packet of crisps.

**Zeditis:** paranoia and depression caused by inability of list-makers to think of anything beginning with Z.

## As El Salvador polls, John Carlin reports a turn in the civil war



## The domino that refuses to fall

resist as long as we need to.

At the end of 1983 guerrillas of the FMLN had evolved into an army. They massed in large numbers, attacked on broad fronts and between September and the end of the year drove government troops out of town after town and captured large amounts of American-supplied weapons. Army officers appeared incoherent, soldiers' morale was low, and desertion common.

All that has changed. Joaquin Villalobos now talks of "expanding the theatre of military operations". He is no longer of controlling or liberating. A year ago a quarter of El Salvador was out of bounds to government troops. Today the army can, and does, operate throughout the whole of the country.

The guerrillas remain highly motivated and professional, but the army has improved "by a hundred per cent in the last year", according to one foreign military observer. Among the reasons have been a reshuffle of the army high command in December 1983, more experience among the officer corps (inevitably in fighting a guerrilla war and an end to the Salvadoran soldiers' nine-to-five working day.

Most decisive of all has been American aid, doubled to \$196m in

1984. The Salvadoran armed forces have grown from 30,000 in 1983 to 42,000 today. Soldiers have gone on special American training courses.

The number of helicopters has doubled to more than 40; crucial in speeding the reaction of an army previously sluggish to come to the aid of colleagues under guerrilla attack. American air force reconnaissance planes fly nightly out of Honduras over Salvadoran territory, reporting instantly to the army high command in San Salvador on every detail of guerrilla movements.

Spectacular attacks, American military advisers concede, are still likely but will not be sustained. The army may occasionally reel, but will remain standing.

As Villalobos likes to point out, the lifeblood of the new-style army. And for that they have President Duarte to thank. Since his election last year Duarte has masterfully transformed El Salvador's image abroad, in particular in the United States. Another factor that has worked against the guerrillas is the war-weariness of the Salvadoran people. All FMLN source in the capital said many of the guerrillas' previously loyal civilian supporters were beginning to seek refuge in the many camps set

up nationwide to house El Salvador's 500,000 homeless. The potential for active support among the unemployed, uncomprehending majority of the country's 4,500,000 people is more limited than ever.

There appear to be serious divisions among the guerrillas as to how they should proceed next. Villalobos is the leader of a faction of the FMLN called the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP), elite troops headed largely by middle-class ex-university students. In his radio interview, Villalobos provided only military answers to the FMLN's problems. He proposed, beside the war of attrition, a stepping up of violence in cities.

Urban terrorism has been a new development in recent months. Two senior army officers and six right-wing politicians have been victims of left-wing street murders.

The more popularly based FMLN group, the Forces of Popular Liberation (FPL) fears the Villalobos approach could lead to a right-wing backlash. FPL representatives in the capital say that if the rightist death squads - against whom Duarte has taken no action - should re-emerge they will win "the dirty war" as they did in 1980 and 1981.

The FPL, according to sources in San Salvador, wants to continue the war in the countryside, to keep the army in a permanent state of tension, but ease up in the cities. The estimated 2,500-strong ERP, however, is unlikely to be persuaded. Accordingly there are many people in El Salvador who are preparing themselves for a new, less intensive, but nastier conflict.

## Rates: where the Tories are really trembling

Scottish Conservatives have been badly shaken by the anger that rating revaluation has stirred among householders and small business owners in Scotland, and the impact it could have on support for the party. In many of the 21 Tory-held Scottish seats, MPs have been deluged with complaints from ratepayers whose bills have soared.

Lord Whitelaw rang alarm bells in Downing Street recently after an uncomfortable visit to the borders. A deputation of Scottish Tory MPs to the Prime Minister met with a sympathetic reception last week.

In Scotland there is a legal obligation to revalue every five years. The country has now suffered two reassessments since 1978, when industry took the heaviest burden.

This time it was the turn of the domestic ratepayers, who had also to absorb an £84 million cut in rate support grant and the extra cost incurred by high-spending local authorities who are defying government guidelines.

Ratepayers have not been calmed by the insistence of Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, that two-thirds of the increase could be pinned directly on

"profligate" local authorities. The Scottish Office calculates that if all councils had kept to the guidelines the rates rise would have been an average of 6 per cent. Instead the average is closer to 18 per cent.

Neither has Scotland failed to note that England, where revaluation is a function of the Inland Revenue, has not had a rates review since 1973. The gross anomalies that have developed there in the last 12 years have grown into a nettie no government can be seen to grasp. Younger has tried to ease the burden for domestic ratepayers by raising relief from one penny to 8p in the pound, which meant increasing the rate subsidy from £14 million to £102 million. Even that does not lessen the feeling that the present Scottish system should be changed.

The dilemma in Scotland has been increased by the fact that less than 30 per cent of the householders pay substantial rates. As they see it, Tory-inclined property owners are being hammered to pay for the activities of local authorities such as the left-wing Edinburgh District Council, which has spent over £45,000 of ratepayers' money on a campaign to persuade the people of

Edinburgh of the benefits of "improving services and creating jobs". Edinburgh councillors are involved in a long-running argument with Mr Younger on the issue of rates and insist it is not their budget - but the Government's - reduction of rates support grant that has caused some ratepayers to domestic property to increase 300 per cent.

In the Borders valuations have been even higher where adjustments have taken account of previously low assessments.

The result has provoked the loudest outbursts from Scottish Tory MPs that Downing Street has ever heard, demands for a new system and help in the transitional period. One party supporter said: "You cannot imagine the anger. It is being hit hardest and they will vote with their feet unless the Government does something far more positive than a manifesto commitment to change."

There are four separate Tory groups and one independent group considering alternatives. The main candidates so far include poll tax, local income tax, a sales tax or direct

national government funding. A poll tax has been strongly resisted by the Labour Party in Scotland partly because it would spread the load far beyond the 30 per cent of Scots who now pay rates.

A Tory supporter said: "Every idea has got a pretty strong lobby behind it for some reason or other but the system has to be changed when ordinary suburban homes suddenly attract a net rates bill of £1,600 a year in a Tory-controlled district and rate increases about double the personal allowance benefit received in the Budget."

With no relief in sight to the problem the Scottish Tory conference next month will be difficult enough for the party leadership, but even more daunting will be the Scottish regional elections in May 1986. There was an ominous indicator last week in the regional council by-election at North Kyle, which lies in Mr Younger's constituency of Argy. The Tories lost the seat in an 11.6 per cent swing to Labour. The astonished Tory candidate put the blame entirely on the rates revaluation issue.

Ronald Fair

150.00





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## IN HOLY WEEK

The two major public holiday periods, those spanning Christmas and Easter, are repeated annual demonstrations that important events in the Christian calendar are important events still in the life of the nation. Christmas may have been commercialized, and Easter secularized, but not out of recognition: their religious significance is universally known, widely appreciated, and observed by a quite considerable proportion of the population, in ways both old and new. Christmas is perhaps easy to explain; Easter's appeal is more profound and complex. To draw something from it demands an effort of imagination, above all, an ability and a willingness to span two thousand years, and to search the events of far away and long ago for glimpses of meaning and truth which we can appropriate.

These are part of the collective memory of British society, and therefore part of its identity and means to its self-understanding. There is no great opposition between the apparently secular culture of Britain today and its more religious past, for the very shape and tone of that secularism bears the evidence of its origins. No society can ever deny and repudiate its past completely, for the very means of denial and repudiation have to be drawn from that past. Thus it means very little to declare that Britain is or is not now a Christian nation. It is the product of its past, its history, including its religious history, is what makes it what it is.

It is a mistake, and a waste of a most valuable asset, to regard that religious heritage as being of interest only to those present-day institutions devoted to the business of religion and their institutionally active memberships; no more is Shakespeare the exclusive concern of actors or professors of English Literature. It is common property. It is available as a form of language by means of which discourse becomes possible about areas of experience which might otherwise be out of reach, and it is a necessary discourse if man is not to be shrunk to the level of machine or animal, knowing nothing of ultimate meanings and purposes and neither asking nor answering the questions to which religion addresses itself. To ask whether there is purpose in life is to ask a religious question; even to answer in the negative is to give a religious answer, and the process of answering is a religious process. It is a definition of man that he may ask such questions; and thus man is defined as religious. Whatever deeper meaning one gives Easter, it may at least be saluted for annually setting forth that statement.

Nevertheless the appropriation and use of Christianity as a religious language for gaining understanding has never been more difficult, for there is a transition in that language occurring as we try to use it. It is becoming a language about man himself rather than about supernatural entities far removed. "Know thyself" is its motto; it does not ask about angels dancing on the head of a pin.

Fortunately for Christianity the events and symbols it proposes for our attention are well suited for that anthropocentric shift: so well suited, indeed, that it is not an empty question to ask whether that was always intended. Christianity offers for our reflection a man who represented the summation and perfection of humanity, and whose story revealed the profound irony that this was intolerable. There is a perversity in the nature of humanity and in the heart of every individual human, so his story tells us. We seek some sort of perfection and at the same time strive to reject and destroy it, within us.

Thus Christianity offers us a way to study and reveal ourselves to ourselves, by reflection upon that archetypal figure and his archetypal story. It can all be said in traditional doctrinal language of unimpeachable orthodoxy, but to appropriate it for our use it requires translation. The man Jesus appeals to us directly, however; this may well be why, in popular religious sentiment, he is found to be far more interesting and worthy of attention than the churches are. And far more capable of surprising us. At the commencement of the week before Easter, the beginning of Holy Week, we may glance ahead to his ultimate surprise, so strange that even his most devoted followers did not at first believe it. He allowed himself to be put to death, in gross humiliation and cruelty. And it was not the end, but the glorious beginning of something new.

## EUROPE IS GROWING

It was reported recently that "Europeism", a doctrine much favoured in the last few years by American commentators, has been officially disowned by the Hudson Institute, a body whose study of the future commands almost the same respect in modern America as was enjoyed by the Delphic oracle in Ancient Greece. Europe may not after all be destined to no more glorious destiny than that of a museum which the denizens of the Pacific Basin can visit to inspect the relics of an earlier civilization from which their own, in part at least, derives. Europeans in general still have the capacity to create, to invent, to develop and to sell. What is more many of them actually know this and, even if history has given them a sense of their own limitations, so that they are less inclined than Americans to assume that everything will somehow work out for the best, they have not all despaired of their future, whether as individuals, as nations, or even as a Community.

The future of the European Community has, in the last few years, been the most difficult aspect of their future for West Europeans to feel optimistic about. Bugged down in arguments, mainly about money,

which are invariably tedious and obscure and sometimes positively demeaning, the Community has seemed to fall far short of the aspirations of its founders. At times it seemed that the only people who still had any faith in it were those on the outside clamouring to get in; and the difficulty it had in resolving the problems which arose from the last major enlargement (the accession of Britain, Ireland and Denmark) greatly complicated and delayed the process of admitting the new candidate members from the Iberian peninsula.

Over the last eight years Spaniards and Portuguese have been given a sobering education in the ways of the Community such that it is almost remarkable that they still want to come in. Certainly one suspects few Portuguese can quite believe their prime minister when he tells them, as he did in the euphoria of last Friday morning, that "Portugal in five years' time will be a completely different country, and without doubt better for all Portuguese".

To encourage expectations of that sort is certainly unwise. But it would be equally wrong not to recognize the historic importance of what was at last achieved in Brussels last week. The Community has grown not only

in size but also in moral stature. In a process perhaps unique in human history, peoples of different languages and traditions are being brought together, their societies and economies are being gradually integrated, without recourse to violence and with respect for the particularism of each of the peoples involved. It is not to be expected that this process can be either painless or easy. It requires both of officials and of national leaders a remarkable degree of patience and dedication, a delicate combination of obstinacy with a spirit of give-and-take, an ability to pacify passionate and vocal interest-groups at home while keeping their genuine grievances in reasonable proportion to the wider interests at stake.

The Community has to operate like that because it is composed of democracies. In a democracy the simple, quick, tidy solution too often has to be foregone because of the need to conciliate and convince. It is not an easy way to live but Europeans have found it preferable to the alternatives. It is for that reason above all others that Spaniards and Portuguese, like Greeks before them, wanted to join this Community. For the same reason we should be glad, and more than glad, to have them in.

## THE POST OFFICE ON TRIAL

The old story of the irresistible force and the immovable object seems about to play itself out again in the case of the Post Office. The corporation's management have declared their determination to go ahead this month with the introduction of new working practices and new technology; the leaders of the Union of Communications Workers have declared that their members will disrupt services if the attempt is made.

The confrontation has arisen almost in spite of the negotiations on both sides. The plans that management want to implement have been the subject of months, and indeed years, of discussion. The union sets great store by democracy as formulated by the rule-book, and its leaders could not conclude the agreement which seemed close a few months ago without referring back to the union's sovereign delegate conference. As tends to be the case, the conference, elected on a relatively low vote, tends to be representative of the more committed members. A special conference was called last month, and the leadership advised it to accept a compromise which had been worked out on the two principal issues, but it refused. Whether the union's members will in practice side with their conference or their leadership remains to be seen this month.

The trouble with the mails is that most of us never get round to stuffing our letters into the box until almost too late. Seventy per cent of mail is posted after five in the evening. But that does not stop us expecting it to reach its destination at the very outset of the working day. Between delivery

time and five in the evening, when the rest of the country does most of its work, the Post Office has relatively little to do. The burden of mail also varies greatly through the week and through the year.

The obvious solution is to make more use of part-time workers and mechanization to meet the peaks of demand. In practice a system of high overtime payments has grown up, inflexible, unpredictable and of course very much cherished by those workers who benefit from it most.

Workers in a high-overtime industry, with relatively low basic pay, can appear, and even feel, worse off than they really are. In some cases, postmen are on a basic pay of less than £100 a week. But only 4 per cent of them are on basic rates, and average earnings are above £180 a week, with a minority of glutons for overtime actually earning more than £250 a week. It is not practical industrial relations to wean a workforce away from such practices without incentives. The Post Office plans to introduce another 20,000 part-timers (the overtime worked at present is equivalent to more than 50,000 part-timers) and to minimize the effect on individuals by making the change progressively in pace with natural wastage.

It is determined at the same time to make general the productivity schemes which have already been accepted by half the workforce, and to demand that the new technology which has already been accepted by half the workforce be used to full advantage. The productivity scheme is designed so that 55 per cent of the savings made go to raise the

earnings of the workers involved.

Post Office workers will have to judge their response to this challenge knowing that the Corporation's trading position is not as unassailable as its legends of solidly-rooted red pillar-boxes might seem to symbolize. Traffic and productivity have increased healthily in the last few years, but in reality they have done little more than recover to the levels of the 1960s.

Now the coming revolution in information technology, and the growth in demand for financial services, may prove either threat or opportunity to the Post Office. With its national network of offices it is well placed to take advantage of the changes, if it can adapt to compete with rivalry from other rapidly advancing forms of data transmission. Another general disruption of services now would be extremely damaging to customer confidence, and would necessarily call into question the future of the statutory monopoly on which so much of the Corporation's strength depends.

The Post Office's strength lies very much in its being a comprehensive nationwide service sustained by the cross-subsidy which monopoly makes possible. Management and union alike are aware of how central this is to its present basis of operations. But the Government is ideologically little in sympathy with public service protection of this kind - as its robust treatment of the bus industry shows - and a serious disruption of the service in defence of entrenched and protected inefficiency would inevitably raise grave doubts about whether the monopoly ought to continue on its present basis.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Haziness in technology prospect

From Lady White

Sir, The article by Lord Young, Minister without Portfolio (March 26) was less than frank in its reference to the Budget announcement of purported help for higher technological and scientific education.

The minister wrote: "We are giving an additional £43 million over the next three years to provide extra places in higher education for the science and technology students whose industry so badly needs". In the House of Lords, on the night before his article appeared, Lord Young was obliged to modify his reference in debate to the £43 million by admitting that £12 million was not new money at all. He disclosed that the University Grants Committee had been required to divert £12 million from its allocation, to the deprivation of other university resource needs.

The remaining £31 million is almost balanced by the increased National Insurance contribution which our universities will now have to pay on behalf of their staffs. In terms of real resources, therefore, our universities will be no more than marginally better off as a result of this apparent Treasury munificence.

Another significant, though less weighty, omission in Lord Young's article was his failure even to mention the unique contribution of the Open University, with its high-level work in distant learning of science and technology, invaluable for up-dating industry-based mature students. It should at least have been included in his list.

Yours faithfully,

IRENE WHITE,

House of Lords,

27 March.

From Professor Igor Aleksander

Sir, Lord Young's article draws attention to the welcome input from the Government designed to drive education and commerce towards a future that depends on the creation of new technology. At the same time, however, it exposes a dangerous fallacy.

Technology in its own right does not automatically make an economy more effective. In fact, several recent studies have shown that moving technology into a business has as equal potential for either making this business more effective or driving it to the wall.

The difference between these two possible effects is rooted in whether a firm has understood the strategic advantage that technology offers or whether it merely hopes that

technology will magically create higher productivity. The latter error can easily translate to the level of a national economy.

It is therefore important to channel Lord Young's optimism into the realization that effectiveness through technology on a national level will depend on the swiftness with which commercial leaders accept that age-old managerial techniques and attitudes may need to be subjected to a major re-examination.

This implies that carrots are needed for a thorough re-examination of business strategies, managerial procedures, company organisation and national economic structures. I see two ways forward: the first implies a re-orientation of those areas of education that currently generate decision makers for the UK economy. This includes business studies, law and even the humanities. The new orientation should be towards making a study of the effect of new technology a standard part of such curricula.

Secondly, direct reward should be provided to current organisations, perhaps in the form of a "Queens Award for Effectiveness through Technology". This would be based on institutional adjustments that enable them to use technology effectively.

Without measures of this kind, there is a grave danger that the next century will not only be like the last, but that the trade gap which is an inevitable consequence of a blind step into new technology will not be compensated by making the technology effective.

Yours etc,  
IGOR ALEKSANDER,  
Head of the Kober Unit in the Management of Information Technology,  
Imperial College of Science and Technology,  
180 Queen's Gate, SW7,  
March 26.

From Mr Max Morris

Sir, Is not Lord Young somewhat incautious in implicitly equating our alleged move towards vocational education with the Chinese cultural revolution?

That upheaval was marked by the destruction of educational standards on a massive scale. It is precisely this that those of us who have been criticizing the new developments fear will happen here.

Yours etc,  
MAX MORRIS,  
44 Coolhurst Road, N8,  
March 26.

### School closures

From Miss Lynn Taylor

Sir, I write with reference to your correspondent, Mr. Peter Lacy (March 28), who wrote to you concerning the closure of certain schools in Coventry, as a former pupil of the school of which he is a governor.

Whilst not denying the force of the general principle that this Government's policy in relation to local authority budgets is causing considerable damage to local services, the example he uses to illustrate his point is hardly well chosen. The school to which he refers is not "new", as he states, but is a former girls' grammar school, established in the 1920s, which was converted into a mixed comprehensive in 1975 in a particularly inept manner.

As a consequence of a doubling of intake and the necessity to provide

additional facilities for boys, new school buildings were crammed on to a site clearly too small to take them and the pupils lived and worked in the midst of a building site for several years. Not surprisingly academic standards suffered.

Why were the pupils subjected to this? Was the result of a policy decision taken by a Labour controlled local authority?

I hold no brief for the Conservative Party, but this school stands as an example of a socialist authority pursuing its political aims without regard to the needs of those children directly affected by its actions. Unfortunately it seems that the lesson that political dogma must be tempered by common sense and humanity needs to be learnt by both the major political parties.

Yours faithfully,  
LYNN TAYLOR,  
50 High Pavement,  
Nottingham,  
March 28.

### Natural medicine

From Mr Peter Ross, MP for Erewash (Conservative)

Sir, Your important survey on alternative medicine (March 13) confirms its increasing acceptability by GPs. However, there is a serious threat to progress and natural medicines may become unavailable for practitioners to prescribe unless the manufacturers succeed in reaching an accommodation with the DHSS fairly soon.

Recently formed is the Natural Medicines Group, which represents 39 manufacturers in this small but fast-growing industry, struggling to meet probable criteria under the Medicines Act of 1968. Herbal producers do not seek exemption from the Act supporting as they do the tightening of controls following

disasters like that of Thalidomide.

Under the Act a full licence is only awarded after being examined on the grounds of safety, quality and efficacy. But the DHSS testing criteria to prove these grounds are inappropriate when applied to natural medicines, successfully and safely in use for years, as these rules were designed for new conventional drugs, which are highly specific, using materials not found naturally.

The Medicines Act recognises five forms of medicine but only one, conventional medicine, is currently represented on the Medicines Commission. No wonder the Government is not getting balanced advice and the future of licensed natural medicines is threatened.

Yours sincerely,  
PETER ROSS,  
House of Commons,  
March 18.

### Galapagos fire

From Mr G. T. Corley Smith

Sir, The report "Airift to rescue turtles from Galapagos fire" (March 27), contains inaccuracies which should be corrected.

The Galapagos turtles cannot be in any grave danger from fire as they live in the sea. On the other hand there are five distinct races of unique giant tortoises on the large island of Isabela, each confined to a separate volcano. Two of them are on southern Isabela, where the fires are reported to be raging.

There is a narrow neck of naked lava, the Perry Isthmus, separating this area from the rest of the island and it is to be hoped that this will prevent the fire spreading to the northern volcanoes, which have no human inhabitants and which are the home of animals and plants found nowhere else in the world.

Even if the fabulous giant tortoises can be saved (an incredibly difficult operation) and if the sealions, for seals, marine iguanas, nesting sea birds and flamingos can make their escape, the damage done to small animals, insects and plants, some of them probably still unknown to science, will be incalculable.

The Charles Darwin Foundation was not, as your report states "set up by the United Nations" and in consequence is not funded by that organization. It was created in 1959 by an international group of

scientists and conservationists with the blessing of the Government of Ecuador, Unesco and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Among other things, it breeds in captivity the already endangered races of the giant tortoise.

This latest disaster will put further strain on its inadequate resources.

Yours sincerely,  
G. T. CORLEY SMITH,  
(Secretary General, Charles Darwin Foundation, 1972-82),  
Greensted Hall,  
Ongar,  
Essex,  
March 27.

### False alarm

From Mr A. C. Norfolk

Sir, I haven't heard starlings, excellent mimics as they are, imitating digital alarm clocks (March 19), but the other night in the Manor House here in Diss I heard a cricket in the fireplace bleeping loudly at precisely 30-second intervals.

It looks, therefore, as if nature is combining with technology to threaten our rest at both ends of the day.

Yours faithfully,  
A. C. NORFOLK,  
Grove End,  
Mount Street,  
Diss,  
Norfolk,  
March 19.

### Destruction in the countryside

From Lord Melchett and others

Sir, Almost exactly a year ago (February 6, 1984) we wrote to you about the destruction of a boundary hedgerow by a farmer in Essex. A similar case of destruction has taken place this year in Norfolk.

In recent weeks, a beautiful, 300-year-old boundary hedgerow just outside the village of Necton, near Swaffham, in Norfolk, has been razed to the ground by a local farmer. The hedge was 20 to 30 ft high and consisted of ivy-clad native species like oak, hornbeam, holly, ash and guelder and dog rose. The hedge and adjoining dyke provided a haven for shrews, voles, mice, water rats, frogs and toads, and many nesting birds, including blackbird, robin, wren, thrush, tree creepers and cuckoos.

The hedge ran along the north side of the garden of an old farmhouse. The first that the people living in the farmhouse knew of the impending disaster was when they heard the chain saw start to whine at 9.30 one Tuesday morning. What has been done feels to the distressed residents like an act of grievous bodily harm. One of them was so physically affected that she was unable to set foot outside the house for over a week.

Their fruit gardens, chickens and beehives are now fully exposed to East Anglia's cold north-easterly winds, and their view of a wildlife oasis has been replaced with the unappealing vista of a barren cereal field and the housing estate on the south side of Necton village.

The farmer concerned has said that he needed to remove the hedge because it was shading a few feet at the edge of his field, thus slightly reducing his yields there and we understand that the stumps that remain will soon be grubbed up and the small dyke alongside filled in.

Is this destruction what Sir Richard Butler, National Farmers' Union President, means when he talks in the NFU policy document, *The Way Forward*, about agriculture and conservation?

After all the desecration of the East Anglian countryside it is a national scandal that we still allow the few remaining old and beautiful hedgerows to be destroyed in this way. Farmers must be made to publicise their intention to make changes of this sort in the countryside. Local people must have a chance to voice their opinions. And the final decision must be taken by a body like the local planning authority without a vested interest in the outcome. Until this happens, these acts of destruction will continue.

Yours sincerely,  
PETER MELCHETT,  
ROSAMUND RICHARDSON,  
DAVID MELCHETT,  
Courtyard Farm,  
Kingstead,  
Hunstanton,  
Norfolk,  
March 26.

### Greek reputations

From Mr Antonis Kamaras

Sir, I would like to congratulate you for your editorial comment of March 28 on the latest political developments in Greece. You clearly point out Mr Papandreu's disgraceful attitude towards Parliament and Mr Sarizetakis's doubtful claim, under the present circumstances, of wanting to represent the whole nation.

I must tell you that reputations similar to that of Mr Sarizetakis have been repeatedly used in the past three years to give credence to Pasko's self-contradictory and irresponsible policies. Mr Mangakis, Minister of Justice, provides us with a good example of this phenomenon. A constitutional theorist by profession, who was persecuted and tortured by the Greek junta, he has now disregarded the law as Minister of Justice in order to outmanoeuvre the Greek Supreme Court when the latter declared the government's educational reforms unconstitutional. It is only reasonable to assume that Mr Sarizetakis will perform a similar if not identical role.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTONIS KAMARAS,  
10 St Regis,  
Cambridge.

### Engineering investment

From the President of the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors

Sir, The continuing debate on the proper level of public investment in the country's industrial infrastructure has been conducted in purely domestic terms. However, this investment clearly also has important implications for our international competitiveness.

Figures from the international construction federations show that the investment per head in civil engineering works for our principal European competitors, is as follows: West Germany, £209; France, £155; Holland, £117; Belgium, £105; Italy, £100; United Kingdom, £65.

Even allowing for any differences in definitions between the various countries, it is clear that the average level of investment in the other countries is approximately double that in the UK. Also it should be noted that only the UK has a significant advantage from its indigenous oil and gas.

If this imbalance is allowed to persist, it can only do long term damage to British industry's ability to compete, both inside Europe and the wider world context.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANK GIBB, President,  
The Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors,  
Cordray House,  
6 Portland Street, WC2,  
March 15.

## ON THIS DAY

APRIL 1 1889  
The Eiffel Tower, named after its designer Gustave Eiffel (1832-1923) was built for the 1889 exhibition - celebrating the centenary of the French Revolution. It is now, with the added television antenna, over 1,000 feet in height, and was, for many years, the world's highest structure. It took two years to construct, weighs 7,224 tons, has 1,792 steps, and has a maximum sway in high winds of 5 inches.

### THE EIFFEL TOWER

PARIS, MARCH 31.

The Eiffel tower has now attained its full height - 300 metres (984ft). When the proposal was made, two years ago, to erect the structure, artists and literary men signed a protest against the scheme, declaring that it would disfigure Paris, and would destroy the effect of the great monuments of the city, such as Notre Dame and the Louvre. It must be admitted that the effect produced by the tower has been unfortunate. The form suggested the ugliest parts of a suspension bridge, and it was predicted that the deformity would be increased with the increase of size. The result has not been the complete work. Even some of those who protested most loudly against the proposal now admit that the effect of the structure is not what they anticipated. They acknowledge that it has a light and graceful appearance, its spires gigantic, and that it is an imposing monument, not unworthy of Paris.

At half past 2 o'clock to-day the ceremony of hoisting the first flag from the summit was celebrated, in presence of a crowd of spectators. M. Eiffel, with about a dozen persons, ascended the tower to the last small platform, and from that point the flag was hoisted by pulling a rope. The appearance of the tower, as seen from the ground, was followed by the hoisting of the flag. The flag is seven metres and a half long by four metres and a half wide. It bears the letters "R.F." The engineer, M. Condamin, addressed those present on the platform. He said he saluted the flag of 1789, which their fathers had borne so proudly, which had won so many victories, and which had witnessed so much progress in science and humanity. They had endeavoured to erect a monument worthy of the great date '89, and it was for that reason that they had chosen the tower. M. Eiffel, who had been required, to M. Eiffel who had conceived this idea, and to the workmen who had enabled him to carry out his work, they were glad to honour M. Berger then proposed the health of M. Eiffel, the workmen, and the French Republic. The toast was drunk in champagne, amid cries of "Vive la France! Vive Paris! Vive la République!"

The descent from the platform was found to be as trying as the ascent had been, and lasted 40 minutes.

Tables had been arranged for an entertainment to be given to the guests and about 200 workmen. The party were joined by M. Thard, the Premier, and M. Alphonse, city surveyor, and when the repeat had ended M. Eiffel delivered a speech, in which he said that it was a great satisfaction to him to have that day given to the guests and about 200 workmen. The party were then joined by M. Thard, the Premier, and M. Alphonse, city surveyor, and when the repeat had ended M. Eiffel delivered a speech, in which he said that it was a great satisfaction to him to have that day given to the guests and about 200 workmen. The party were then joined by M. Thard, the Premier, and M. Alphonse, city surveyor, and when the repeat had ended M. Eiffel delivered a speech, in which he said that it was a great satisfaction to him to have that day given to the guests and about 200 workmen. The party were then joined by M. Thard, the Premier, and M. Alphonse, city surveyor, and when the repeat had ended M. 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# COURT AND SOCIAL

## COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
March 30: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips today attended the Grand National at Aintree and presented Trophies to past winning jockeys of the Race.  
Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight and was received at Aintree Racecourse by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Merseyside (Wing Commander K. M. Stoddart).  
**YORK HOUSE**  
ST JAMES'S PLACE  
March 31: The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the United Kingdom Committee, this evening attended a Gala Evening in aid of Unicef at the Dominion, Tottenham Court Road. Mrs David Napier was in attendance.

## Forthcoming marriages

Mr W. G. N. Barber and Miss L. K. Mack  
The engagement is announced between William, eldest son of Mr Sedgford, Norfolk, and Louise, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Lawrence Mack of Gaydon, Norfolk.  
Mr A. D. Barthorpe and Miss J. Y. E. Seeley  
The engagement is announced between Anthony, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. W. Barthorpe, of Yewell, Somerset, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr R. C. Seeley, of Hunsdon, Northumberland, and Mrs M. Seeley, of Ely, Cambridgeshire.  
Mr C. C. Black and Miss W. L. Steel  
The engagement is announced between Colin, only son of Mr and Mrs Archie Black, of Vancouver, British Columbia, and Lynn, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Steel, of Baytree Farm, Hamersmith, Lincolnshire.  
Mr J. C. Burke and Miss A. C. Fisher  
The marriage will take place in the Temple de l'Oratoire, Paris, on April 6, of John, second son of Mr and Mrs William J. Burke, of Minneapolis, United States, and Anne-Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Fisher, of Tonbridge, Kent.  
Mr S. G. A. Bradie and Miss A. E. Eadie  
The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D. G. A. Eadie, of Great Malvern, Essex, and Annie, eldest daughter of Mr R. R. Bruce, of Boughton Monchelsea, Kent, and Mrs M. Willard, of Paddock Wood, Kent.  
Mr D. Gilbreath and Miss V. Butler  
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs J. C. Gilbreath, of Carthage, Missouri, United States, and Vanessa, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Butler, of The Home, West Clendon, Surrey.

## Birthdays today

Mr Christopher Bishop, 53; Mr David Gower, 28; Major-General J. R. C. Hamilton, 79; Sir Paul Hasluck, 80; Sir Nicholas Henderson, 66; Miss Gaie Johnson Houghton, 44; Baroness MacFarlane of Blanford, 59; Professor M. L. McLaughlin, 61; Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny, 59; Professor Sir Dimitri Obolensky, 67; Mrs C. M. Patterson, 51; Mr Sieve Race, 64; Professor Sir Peter Tizard, 69; Mr Leslie Walter, 62; Mr J. J. Williams, 37; the Hon Mrs Douglas Woodruff, 80.

## Latest wills

Business Stewart of Alvechurch, of Fulham, London, the wife of Lord Stewart of Fulham, a former Labour Foreign Secretary, left estate valued at £45,334 net. She died intestate.

## Sir Robert Mayer, CH

There will be a service of thanksgiving for the life and work in music of Sir Robert Mayer, CH, in St Margaret's Church, Westminster, on Tuesday, May 14, 1985 at noon. It would be appreciated if organizations wishing to be represented at the service would give notice of their intention not later than Tuesday, May 7 to the Rector's Warden, St Margaret's Church, Westminster, SW1.

## Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators

Mr Tom Brooke-Smith has been elected as Master of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators for 1985-86. The Master-Elect is Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Wheeler, the Warden Mr P. Pooley, Captain P. Dell and Mr F. Stringer. Captain Paul Wilson was installed as Clerk.

# Dilemma over doubting bishops

The Prime Minister was surprisingly unfair to cuckoos. They are not excellence, nature's entrepreneurs, ingenious individuals who make the best of unlikely possibilities.

Had she thought that the invaded nest is a kind of market-place, and the newly-hatched cuckoo chick a brilliant exploiter of the profit motive, she might have avoided such ornithological metaphors for the Bishop of Durham in her speech last week and called him something less Tory.

That she did not may mark the fact that the Right Rev David Jenkins is a puzzle to conservatives, whether they be politicians or churchmen. As they see him, he claims to attack government policy in the name of Christianity, yet does not quite seem to believe in Christianity himself.

The confusion is not very remarkable. A bishop who says, as he said again this week, that he did not know whether the tomb of Jesus was empty or not is saying, so far as most people are concerned, that he does not know whether the doctrine of the Resurrection is true or not.

The Bishop of Durham says he believes it is true, thereby producing somewhat troubled frowns all round. Most people who believe the tomb was empty, do not believe in the Resurrection.

He might have meant that the question of the empty tomb was of no importance, and not worth asking, so the answer did not matter very much. But the bishop actually said, in his latest diocesan newsletter, "I cannot conceal or cheat on this because the whole matter is too important for cheating or concealment, or pretending to particular beliefs that one does not find sufficient reason for holding".

Thereby he dealt with those conservative churchmen who accuse him of saying the empty tomb is irrelevant: it is on the contrary too important for him to conceal his opinion.

The same confusion is generated by other churchmen in similar contexts. The Bishop of Birmingham, the Dr Hugh Montefiore, wrote in his diocesan paper not long ago: "I have an open mind on the Virgin Conception although... I could never as a bishop (nor would I wish as an individual) deny it as a dogma".

A dogma which is not denied is affirmed (unless the bishop means it is undeniable because it is meaningless).

Thus the Virgin Conception is true as a dogma; but might not be true as a truth. In that recent blunt statement the bishop referred his readers to an essay he wrote in 1975 on these matters, wherein he said: "What a true statement says is true. But what it fails to say may also be true".

He appears to believe that the Virgin Conception is true and not necessarily true, at one and the same time. This may be as much as an honest bishop can say, but it is not very clear.

Again, the ordinary and obvious meaning of his open mindedness is that Mary might not have been a virgin, and hence the dogma of the Virgin Conception might not be true.

Dr Montefiore states in that essay that he would be unable to remain as an office holder in the church if he wanted to repudiate such dogmas as the Virgin Conception. The difficulty is that from most positions other than his own, it appears that he has already repudiated them, for to say a dogma might not be true is to empty the word dogma of any content in Christian theology. It means, *inter alia*, that which is true.

One of the few things clear in all this is that most people, conservative politicians included, will not follow what he is trying to say, but make the best sense of it they can.

It fuels the conviction that the Church of England is led by bishops who only half believe what they are supposed to believe, and who are not honest enough to admit it. It follows, especially where Conservative politicians are concerned, that they can discount whatever those bishops may say on other matters, because they should not be bishops at all. That is becoming quite a common Conservative conviction.

There is a deeper dimension to it than that. A bishop's claim to authority is his role in the church as a guardian of the Christian faith. It is not just an authority claimed by him but an authority granted to him by the faithful.

To be seen as having repudiated part of that faith is to lose all his authority, therefore: authority as a preacher of the Gospel on political and moral questions as much as a preacher of religious doctrine in the narrower sense.

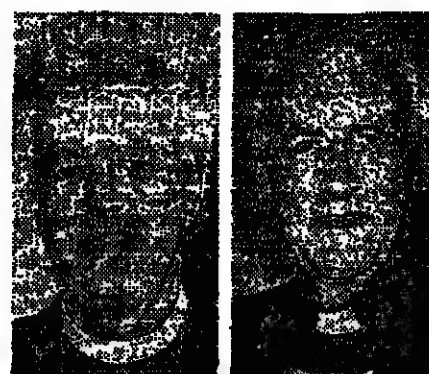
Conservative politicians of the Anglican obedience do not grant to the bishops of Durham and Birmingham the right to criticize in the name of the church, precisely because they have lost their authority.

Both these bishops have sometimes made controversial contributions to public debate on political issues, and both have made controversial contributions on theological issues. The link between the two is the issue of authority.

Had the Bishop of Durham avoided controversial theological issues in his public statements, he would have enhanced quite considerably the influence he could have had on political issues, and he could have defended his Theological "concealment" on the grounds that the plight of the Durham unemployed, or the Durham miners, or whatever cause he was espousing, was his primary pastoral responsibility.

When the House of Bishops meets in June to consider the "Durham affair" and what to do about it, they need also to consider what, in general, episcopal authority is about. It is not just that which comes with the laying on of hands; it is also that which is recognized and accepted by the people.

They have a duty to the church not to do things which undermine their own authority; particularly if they want to inflict hard sayings on those who are in any case liable to be reluctant to hear them.



The Bishops of Durham (left) and Birmingham: Issue of authority.

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## OBITUARY

### SIR FIFE CLARK Former Director General of the COI

Sir Fife Clark, who died on March 28 at the age of 77, was Director General of the Central Office of Information from 1954 to 1971 and an outstanding figure in public relations in both the public and the private sectors.

Born on May 29, 1907, Thomas Fife Clark was educated at Middlesbrough High School and entered journalism with Westminster Press provincial newspapers, becoming Parliamentary Lobby and Diplomatic Correspondent. In 1939 he joined the Ministry of Health and spent two years on information campaigns.

From 1952-55 he acted as adviser on government public relations and press officer to two Prime Ministers - Sir Winston Churchill and Sir Anthony Eden - and in 1956-57 he advised Dr Charles Hill, as the responsible minister, on the co-ordination of the government information services both at home and overseas.

He had gone to the COI as Home Controller in 1952. He was responsible for organizing the production and management of the British pavilions at the world exhibitions in Brussels, Montreal and Osaka, but his main task was to preside over the continuing development of the central role of the COI in government communications as a provider of information material and services for other departments. Among home publicity campaigns launched under his aegis were those on road safety, army recruiting and decimal currency.

He published a book *The Central Office of Information* in 1971. In the New Whitehall series. He also played a considerable part in the evolution of an acceptable concept of government public relations, stressing the duty of every government to supply the public with information about its policies as fully and promptly as possible, a philosophy which he developed in notable talks to institutions concerned with administration and communications. He welcomed and encouraged the increasing importance of trade promotion work in the government information services, and the close relationship between COI and industry owes much to his efforts.

Though he had been previously little concerned with overseas affairs, as Director General he travelled widely and played a part himself in presenting Britain abroad.

As befitting a leader within his profession, Clark was also a distinguished President of the British Institute of Public Relations (of which he was a former member) as well as the first President of the International Public Relations Association.

He was also Consultant on External Relations to the Crown Agents for Overseas Governments and Administrations, 1971-75, and to Trident Television Group of Companies, 1976-78.

All those who worked with him will remember, with affection, a modest and invariably kindly personality.

His wife Joan, whom he married in 1945, died in 1977. They had two sons and one daughter.

### MR JOHN JOLLIFFE

Mr John Jolliffe, Bodley's Librarian at the University of Oxford since 1982, died on March 30 at the age of 55.

He was educated at Hastings Grammar School and at University College London, where he graduated in French.

The thirty years of his professional career as a librarian were divided equally between the Bodley Library and the Bodleian where he became sub-librarian and Keeper of Catalogues in 1970.

Jolliffe was a specialist in sixteenth century French literature, a bibliographical interest he maintained throughout his career, which was soon to be distinguished by a then pioneering interest in the application of automated techniques to the cataloguing of older printed books.

He was closely involved with explorations of a proposed joint scheme (Proposed Joint Scheme, Project LOC) for cataloguing earlier printed books in the major libraries of London, Oxford and Cambridge. Its exhaustive report, covering work Jolliffe had directed since 1968, was published as *Computers and Early Books* (1974).

His knowledge and skill - and his sharp critical intelligence - made him particularly well qualified to take over the planning of computerised developments in the Bodleian with the special problems of its partly revised catalogue and the urgent necessity of adapting traditional scholarly practices to modern information handling techniques.

Jolliffe became a key figure in the developments of the 1970s, some of which are only now beginning to come to fruition. He was prominent in the planning and execution of the 19th Century Short Title Catalogue of which the first volumes have recently started to appear.

In 1982 after a period of service as Acting Librarian he was appointed to Bodley's Librarianship, taking office at a difficult time when cuts in university and library expenditure were affecting all aspects of the Bodleian's activities.

His tragically early death, after a short illness, has occurred before he was able fully to make his mark on the administration of the historic institution which, as he was very conscious, has a special place not just in Oxford itself but in the whole world of scholarship.

He was elected a Fellow of Nuffield College when he joined the Bodleian as a Keeper, and he gave his college good service, not least as its Dean of Degrees.

He is survived by his widow Beryl (née Bailey), whom he married in 1955, and their three daughters.

### MR KARIM KHALEF

Karim Khalef who was mayor of Ramallah on the Israeli occupied West Bank of the Jordan from 1972 to 1982, died on March 30, of a heart attack. He was 48.

A Christian from a wealthy family, Khalef had graduated in law in Cairo and was elected mayor of Ramallah in the Israeli sponsored municipal elections in 1972.

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## FREE. One measure of The Macallan

10 Years Old Single Highland Malt Whisky will be available per person on presentation of this advertisement during opening hours on April 1st at any of the following establishments, while stocks last:

- Hagdale Lodge Hotel, Baltasound, Unst, Shetland Isles.
- Llewdu (The Black Lion), Bow Street, Aberystwyth.
- Cilhoan Hotel, Ardnamurchan, Scotland.
- The Bishop & Wolf, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly.
- The Foulton Hotel, Sma Glen, Perthshire.

You will perhaps forgive us if, in pursuit of an April prank, we have positioned our free dispensary in somewhat far-out locations. (And it is pleasant to reflect, is it not, that there are occasional rewards - beyond the pleasures of solitude - for those who live in sequestered spots?)

As for your own refreshment, we have not been entirely neglectful. Over the past year, we have been making great strides in our quest to see that our sherry-wood-aged elixir is more widely available. So much so that we suggest you repair to your nearest public house or bar in the course of the day, and purchase yourself a dram of THE MACALLAN.

You will find it as far above mere whisky as whisky is above other sublimity spirits, and infinitely worthy of a small investment. And if, by any mischance, they do not carry it, may we suggest you lobby the landlord to remedy the situation long before next year's freebie is arranged (for who knows where good fortune may light in 1986?). At all events, it would be April folly not to give the thing a try.

THE MACALLAN. THE MALT.

## Science report

### Smoking destroys health, and forests

By David Nicholson-Lord  
Males aged over 15 use 15.5 million cigarettes a day in the United Kingdom. The fourth most frequent cause of death in males, moved up to first place in the Third World as a cash crop, is raising cancer and causing deforestation and occupying land that could grow much needed food crops for home consumption.

Developing countries using tobacco to bring in foreign earnings, and with them the products of the industrialized world, are unwittingly damaging their health, according to the World Health Organization.

Tobacco economies, Dr Roberto Masironi, of the WHO's smoking and health programme, says are "a cancer economy".

Tobacco, now grown by about 120 Third World countries, has the advantage of a relatively stable international market. It can be grown on marginal soils and much help with training and finance is available, either from state-run organizations or the tobacco multinationals.

Tobacco production and consumption are linked, according to an article in *Ceres*, the journal of the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization. In Pakistan, where it is an important cash crop, more than four-fifths of

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males aged over 15 use 15.5 million cigarettes a day in the United Kingdom. The fourth most frequent cause of death in males, moved up to first place in the Third World as a cash crop, is raising cancer and causing deforestation and occupying land that could grow much needed food crops for home consumption.

Developing countries using tobacco to bring in foreign earnings, and with them the products of the industrialized world, are unwittingly damaging their health, according to the World Health Organization.

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## THE ARTS

Dance  
Ingenious  
comedyGut Reactions  
Royal, Glasgow

The general title *Gut Reactions* for the Scottish Ballet's new programme covers three diverse works: an earnest humanitarian fable by an aspiring young choreographer, a lyrical piece by Christopher Bruce and an exhilarating, flippant dance comedy by Michael Clark.

Bruce risks snide comments by calling his creation *Remembered Dances*, and it is true that there is little in it to surprise anyone familiar with his other recent works. But, from a choreographer of his standing, a piece of honest craftsmanship is worth enjoying. The music is Janacek's *In the Mist*, four piano pieces using related material in contrasted moods.

In a cast of six, Elaine McDonald and Christopher Long explore a troubled mood in their duets, lightened when McDonald is taken up by the other two men or accompanied by the other women. The supporting pairs also have some swift, light-hearted entries of their own. The music sustains happily the mixture of smooth ensemble or duet work and lively folk-dance steps which Bruce clearly enjoys nowadays, and the dancers look good in it. Walter Noble's simple setting, of one curtain half-hiding another in contrasted colour and texture, is handsome.

Clark's creation, his first for a big classical company, by contrast is lavishly staged: one elaborate setting succeeds another at amazing speed. But it is all a clever trick, since every one of them comes from the company's existing repertory, although few are easily recognisable, thanks to different lighting and costumes.

That is characteristic of the way Clark and his designer, Charles Atlas, have gone about displaying a cast of 25 to look like far more in brief and ingenious comic entries. With typography as exuberant and individual as his choreography, Clark calls it *HALL, the classical* and sets it to a mixture of Ravel (the Introduction and Allegro) and rock songs by The Fall.

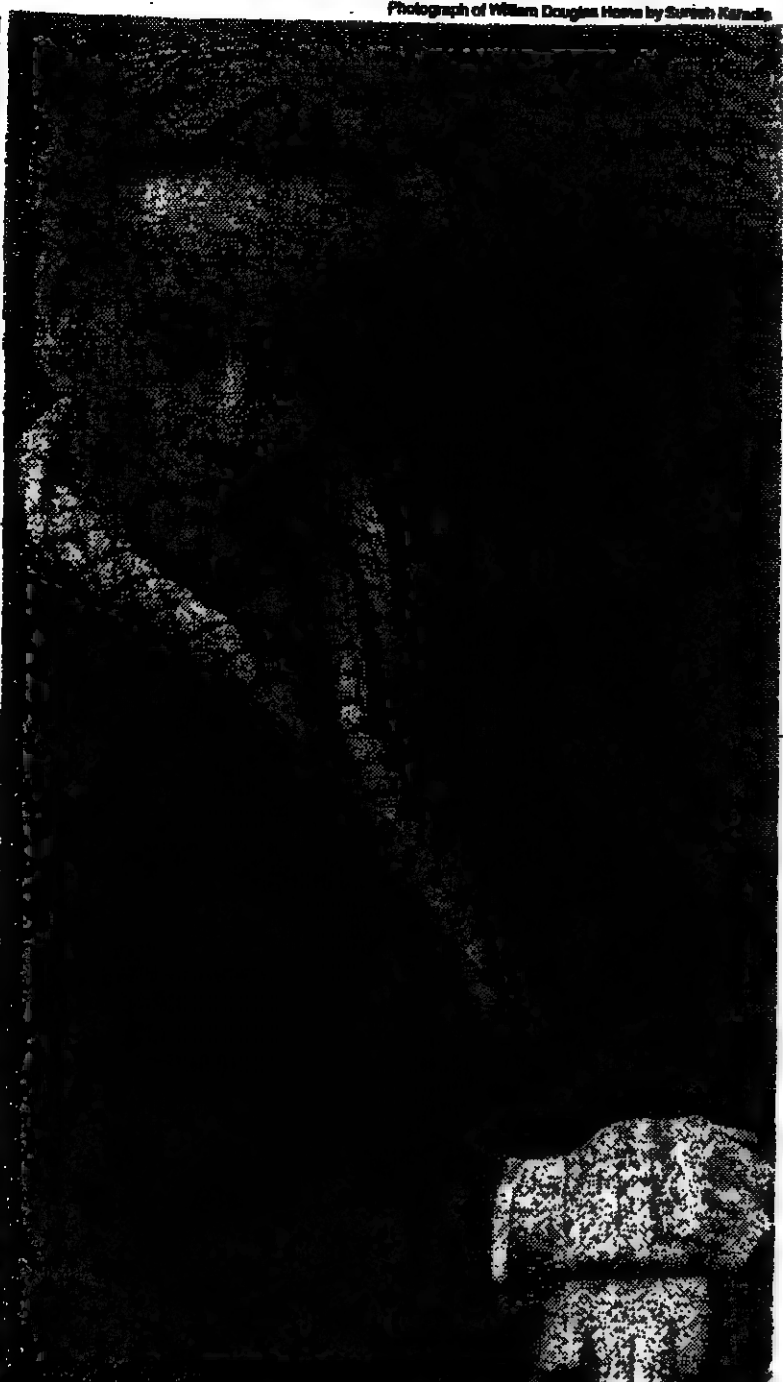
Characters include a goldfish, leopards, three gladiators on full points, a scarecrow, lion and tin man, and Clark himself as the opening performance as a catalyst, agent provocateur, sex symbol (complete with a large rude appendage) and idiot. A tough role for Vincent Hamman to take over at later performances in Glasgow and Aberdeen, but the fun should hold up. The whole cast show high spirits and Linda Packer holds her own in personality and style in her episodes with Clark.

Peter Royston and Paul Robinson, choreographer and composer of *Pococurante*, attempt an allegory of the evils and tragedies of apartheid. Some episodes are touching and striking, notably the humane tenderness of the scene where Vincent Hamman undresses Linda Packer for their impassioned duet, and the comic-sinister stylization of the snuffed-out blind officials who catch them.

Black armbands or chokers distinguish the oppressed from their masters, but representing the free-spirited hero by three dancers is confusing. The point of a harlequin figure, Tokoloshe, except as a kind of master of ceremonies, is also unclear, but his solos include some of the best choreography and are well performed by Christopher Gilbard.

At 45 minutes, the work is over-long for its dance material but the music holds up better. As a flawed attempt at treating a serious subject, *Pococurante* deserves a regretful respect.

John Percival



Photograph of William Douglas Home by Sarah Knapton

William Douglas Home is no stranger to adversity, for the critical disapproval of his new play, *After the Ball is Over*, is closely followed by a remarkable book of letters describing his unhappy war experiences: interview by Caroline Moorehead

## Reliving the conscience of the past

Early last year the "playwright" William Douglas Home received a packet from his sister Bridget. It contained the letters he had written to his parents during the war, unfolding his progression from reluctant soldier to court-martialled, cashiered prisoner, serving eight months of a 10-month sentence for failing to obey an order to attack Le Havre, on the grounds that it was full of civilians and the German Command had offered to send them out if given three days. Douglas Home had forgotten all about the letters, believing them long lost. With linking passages, they have now gone to make up a small book, *Sins of Commission*, just published privately\* and due to be in the shops by today.

Their appearance coincided almost to the day with the opening of *After the Ball is Over*, his first West End play since the very successful *The Kingfisher* seven years ago. "About right," says his wife Rachel, "he goes in for seven-year cycles." In Hampshire, where he lives and which he rarely leaves, Douglas Home is however far more concerned at the moment with the selling of the pink Regency House that they came to 33 years ago, driven south from Scottish family territory by discomfort. "When even the Labrador took to lying on the piano to get out of the draught, it seemed time to move," he says. Now, though, taxes and too few plays have brought "the wolf to the door".

Not that he seems to live in anxiety. "Spring is in my heart and"

\* Michael Russell Publishing, The Chantry, Wilton, Salisbury.

deep contentment: I ask nothing more," he wrote in the second volume of his autobiography five years ago, *Mr Home pronounced* (the title drawn from a Kenneth Tynan quip that ran on "makes me foam pronounced fame"). Glasses pushed well up on top of his head, moving restlessly around a sitting room that might have appeared in any one of his plays, with French windows opening on to a lawn and all the comfortable and agreeable clutter of a place much lived in, Douglas Home's manner suggests satisfaction.

Two excessively friendly dogs, the Times crossword, a copy of *Sporting Life*, photographs, portraits, piles of papers, letters, old cuttings: there is the cosy paraphernalia of intense family life - he was one of seven children, younger brother of Lord Home, has four children himself and 16 nephews and nieces - and numerous friendships.

*Sins of Commission* is about conscientious objection to war, or more precisely, in his words, "political objection", for his disagreement with the army lay not in his own pacifism (though he did, early in the war, think of registering as a C.O.) but in his opposition to Churchill's war aims, the failure to sue for honourable peace rather than pressing for unconditional surrender. Having uneasily and unhappily ruminated his way through most of the war as an officer with the Buffs, standing for Parliament as an Independent at three by-elections, his moment of protest came quite suddenly with the order to attack and the realization of what would ensue. "Twelve thousand casualties. It was a bit much."

The army, anxious to avoid unpleasantness, parked him in an orchard out of the way. But Douglas Home needed the confrontation: he wrote to the *Maidenhead Advertiser* and "they had no choice but to court-martial". Today he remembers with most affection his father, having come to visit him in Wakefield jail, "going off to thank the dear governor for having me here"; with most disgust, "slopping out at 6am". Is he a pacifist now? "No. No more than then. If a burglar broke in, I'd shoot him." He maintains however that there should be a Minister for Peace, as there is a Minister for War, "to case matters before they get too rough". And he believes that his stand at Le Havre may have done something for the civilians of Calais and Dunkirk, who were subsequently evacuated before shelling began.

Douglas Home's stage characters are known for their stiff upper lips, their regard for fair play, their regrets and hopes smouldering. P. G. Wodehouse fashion, well below their jovial, self-mocking outer selves. There are jolly girls and sympathetic butlers. In *Sins of Commission* the tone is often the same: there is talk of pranks, of terrible weather and catching colds, of bird-watching, a pastime of which all Homes are very fond. "Unless somebody does what I'm doing, all the children," he wrote with the idea that unless you shoot somebody every morning in the tube with a tommy gun you're not entitled to your first eleven."

His conversation today, affable, saccato, runs in much the same vein. Will he write other books? "I don't like writing books all that much. Have to be e-ru-dite, don't you? I'm

keen on the dialogue." Does he go to the races? "Goodwood and Newbury. Sir Alec is the greatest tycoon I know. I'd told him I'd give him 10 per cent of any win from a tip and he gave me five winners in six races." Does he wish he had acted more? "No one ever asked me. Voice like a constipated bishop, that's what puts them off."

*Sins of Commission* is a kind of aside, an account of a gesture deeply meant and made long ago. The war ended, he soon abandoned politics - "They lost their charm when everyone was saying the same thing as I was" - and returned to the Travellers' Club (which had written him to come and remove his suitcase but after the war asked him back). Seventy-three this year, the real business of his life continues to be, as it has been for the last forty years, the writing of plays, with the close friendships it has brought him, the unending difficulties of getting productions on - *The Secretary Bird* was turned down by 13 managers - and the chance of reviews which have swung over the years from superb to abysmal.

He is, says his wife, a compulsive worker: 30 plays staged, 10 more in boxes in the study. With *After the Ball is Over* struggling to survive critical cold water at the Old Vic, another play, *And as for Jonathan*, is to come on at Farnham, while a third, about the painter Augustus John, is with a London manager. "And then," says Douglas Home, returning cheerfully to the metaphors he most enjoys, "there are six or seven more, lying like bait on a river."

## Concerts

Vienna PO/Maazel  
Festival Hall

Judging from the way she leapt to her feet to applaud at the end, Mrs Thatcher, opting to forego the pleasures of *Dynasty*, rather enjoyed this concert. In fact it offered a similar kind of entertainment as the soap opera, for, although nobody could argue about the superlative quality of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra's playing, what lay underneath those sharp responses and that opulent sound seemed to be no more than exhibitionistic, glitzy masquerading as art. For which the blame must rest on the

shoulders of the conductor, Lorin Maazel.

Admittedly, Stravinsky's 1919 suite from *Petrushka* is supposed to be a vehicle for display, and almost as if to compensate for the lack of a corps de ballet Maazel made himself the focal point of visual attention. But is all that effort really necessary to encourage players to make such gorgeous sounds? Could not the feverish excitement of the "Infernal Dance" have been achieved without such absurd and distracting choreography? Or am I being unfair by suggesting that the ends, scintillating though they were, did not justify the means?

If here it took only a

determination not to look in order to enjoy the performance, in Strauss's *Don Juan* Maazel's superficially thrilling interpretation seemed to deny the work's Austro-Germanic symphonic foundations. Again it was very exciting, very heroic, with horns resounding and the strings showing remarkable together-ness in what is still one of the most challenging works in the repertoire. But this listener is greedy, and wanted more than that.

Not surprisingly, the work to suffer most deeply from Maazel's theatrical manner was Brahms's First Symphony. The problem here was not the blandness that marred Abbado's Beethoven with this

orchestra at last year's Proms, but Maazel's eagerness to oversell the work when all it demands is understanding and straightforwardness. Most of the notes can look after themselves, and the important tunes were in this instance in the most capable of soloists' hands; the oboe and violin sweetly soared to ecstatic heights in the second movement while the finale's horn calls sent a welcome shiver down the spine. But these were only particular moments when it seemed that the music mattered most. A pity, for there can be no better instrument upon which to play it.

Stephen Pettitt

helped to reveal at least a little of Boulez's multi-layered thought processes.

Richard Morrison

Frances de la Tour won several awards for her stage performance in Tom Kempinski's *Deet for One*, so she came to this dramatic examination of the patient-psychiatrist relationship, on BBC1 last night, formidably prepared. Nor did she disappoint: hers was a formidable performance. She was utterly convincing as a suitable case for treatment. It was the character she played that did not seem quite valid.

As Stephanie, a world-famous violinist smitten by multiple sclerosis, seeking to sort out past, married present, and unpromising future in juxtaposition with a shrink, she had to pass - in the six sessions we were privy to - through those volatile stages which, we understand, precede ultimate co-operation. Disdain, dislike, even verbal abuse, can be part of the psychiatrist's lot during this getting-to-know-you phase. It was just to Miss de-la-Tour's histrionic skill that Stephanie had disdain, dislike

Television  
Grist to  
histrionic  
mills

and verbal abuse in plenty. What seemed unlikely was that a virtuoso, a classification that surely embraces a heightened sensitivity, would have the kind of scatological vocabulary she had to play with.

Maybe, for dramatic purposes, it was thought that it did not matter much what she was supposed to be. The exotisms of submitting one's mind and emotions to the dispassionate probe of a psychiatrist in the cause of breaking oneself apart, hopefully to be put together again, no doubt call forth all kinds of demons; but I thought

the character might have been more acceptable had she been just an ordinary middle-class drone.

It was also alien to my appreciation of what happens in these expensive tête-à-tête that the psychiatrist, excellently played by David de Keyser, should give way to such passion in session five. These quibbles lie at Mr Kempinski's door; the actors gave an impressive theatrical duet.

*Tropical Moon* over Dorling, by Jeremy Burnham, on Channel 4, was a more lightsome frolic, concerning the intrusion of real-life domestic problems on to the visual display unit of a writer of sweet and sugary romances. It was imaginative and good value for its run. Where it threatened to sag it was sustained by the performances of Pauline Collins, as the writer, and Michael Gambon, as the husband. Robert Cietwyn directed.

Dennis Hackett

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does not match up to the videos. For, while the band have tailored their songs to suit certain meticulous production standards and a series of stunning television images, in performance they sounded curiously wooden and emaculated.

The vocalist Holly Johnson, dressed in a white banana-republic generalissimo's uniform complete with fringed epaulettes and mysterious dark glasses, commanded attention, but the rest of the band looked cheerfully uncharismatic. A succession of mildly provocative back-projections, a skillfully orchestrated light show and predictable smoke-machine effects were the sum of the visual attractions.

Musically, there was a sense of notes and beats being played in the right order but no evidence of any real plan to glid the performance. Where the songs were strong enough to carry their own weight, the band nevertheless generated considerable excitement. The rigid, revving heartbeat rhythm which dominates "Relax", "Tribes" and "Welcome to the Pleasuredome" prompted a familiar Pavlovian response, but where songs such as "Get it On" and "Ferry Cross the Mersey" demanded a looser, more soulful approach the lack of performing maturity was painfully evident.

David Sinclair



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THE TIMES

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17	Inglis Ind	
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25	Boam	
26	Lee (John J)	
27	Merrison (W)	
28	Glass Glover	
29	Rosette Mac	
30	Nicola (N) (Vint)	
31	RIAL	
32	Global Op	
33	INDUSTRIALS L-R	
34	Pre	
35	Longdon Ind	
36	Porter Chadburn	
37	Richards (Lea)	
38	MUI	
39	Marshall Pharm	
40	Robinson (Thomas)	
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Stocks closing on Friday

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Capitalization £	Company	Price	Chg on Friday	Gross Div	Chg on Div	P/E
57.7m	Brown Shipley	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	ILAC	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Trans & Arnold	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Farr (J) Ltd	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Marshall (Hafslund)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Yarnac	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Heywood Williams	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Fluor (John)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Lowell (Y)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Costan	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Holts Bros	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Malin	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Glyndwr	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Hall (M)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Edgco	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Inglis Ind	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Grampian	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Johnson (R)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Kelley Ind	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Hawer	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	FOODS	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
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1.2m	Parl Foods	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Boam	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
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1.2m	Merrison (W)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Glass Glover	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Rosette Mac	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
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1.2m	RIAL	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Global Op	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	INDUSTRIALS L-R	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Pre	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Longdon Ind	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Porter Chadburn	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Richards (Lea)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	MUI	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Marshall Pharm	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Robinson (Thomas)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Marquis	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	RFD	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m	Nell (D)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0

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Capitalization £ and Company	Price Friday	Chg on Friday	Gross Div p/s	Chg on Div	P/E
47.7m BSC	251	0.01	15.1	0.01	23.0
1.2m Tongue	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m The Telephone Pk	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m W. & A. Morgan	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m Barnes (J) Ltd	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m 2222 Sts	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m Chubb & Watson	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m Clyde	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m D. & J. V. Co.	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
1.2m Cryslon	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.01	10.0
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## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Wage fixing revisited - with impeccable timing

The pound, a month ago hobbling towards the knacker's yard, is now up and bounding around like a two-year old. It had been a remarkable recovery, 20 per cent against the dollar and more than 10 per cent on the sterling index in four weeks.

There has been an immediate effect on prices. This weekend petrol prices were reduced to just under £2 a gallon. The gentle downward trawl of base rates from their January crisis levels assuming the pound's buoyancy continues, should produce lower mortgage rates by the summer.

Despite these favourable effects, inflation warning signals are flashing for Britain.

There has been a sharp rise in industry's costs. In the 12 months to February the cost of materials bought by manufacturing industry (other than food, drink and tobacco) rose by 14.9 per cent. Prices charged by companies in this category have been rising strongly. In February there was a 0.8 per cent increase in output prices, to stand 6.5 per cent up on a year earlier. In January the rate was 6.3 per cent, in December 5.7 per cent.

It may be that this is simply a producer price bulge, directly resulting from sterling's earlier sharp drop, and providing a one-off boost inflation but not necessarily a permanent switch to a higher inflation plane.

Another interpretation can be made. This is that the falling pound may have restrained some price rises in Britain, providing an explanation for the muted effect on inflation of sterling's depreciation. The argument is that when the pound is falling, companies can take both bigger margins and higher volumes on exports and so do not need to raise domestic selling prices as much as would normally be required.

This effect comes to an end when the pound rises and, while input costs may rise at a slower rate, output prices could rise still faster in the months ahead, with a direct feed through to retail price inflation.

House prices, an important indicator of inflationary pressures in the economy, are rising at a faster rate than they should be, considering record real mortgage rates. Survey evidence suggests a 2-2.5 per cent rise in the first quarter, and a likely 10-15 per cent rise for the year as a whole.

There is also a straight monetary explanation of why the risks on inflation are mostly on the upside. Money supply growth, on the broad sterling M3 measure, was outside the Government's target range for much of the past year, only creeping back inside in the last two months.

Sterling's present strength may reflect the fact that the authorities are over-compensating for earlier monetary laxity, but again there are elements of locking the stable door after inflation has bolted.

Inevitably, though, wage costs stand out as the biggest inflation threat. A feature of the past three years has been the stubborn refusal of the growth of earnings to moderate. This was less important when productivity growth was very strong, it is particularly important now that productivity growth has slowed.

In the fourth quarter of 1983, unit labour costs in manufacturing were rising at a rate of 0.7 per cent a year. Since then the position has deteriorated sharply. By the fourth quarter of last year, unit wage costs were up 5.4 per cent on a year earlier. In January this year, the 12-month rate jumped further, to 6.5 per cent.

The Institute of Economics Affairs has therefore chosen a timely moment to publish Professor James Meade's paper *Wage-Fixing Revisited* (IEA, 2 Lord North St, London SW1, £1.50).

Professor Meade, winner of the Nobel prize for economics in 1977 and one of the authors of the 1944 White Paper on employment policy - the successor to which was published last week - addresses a familiar theme. Wage determination is the central problem facing democratic economies and, without a radical change in the system of wage-fixing in Britain, the alleviation of unemployment will only be achieved at the expense of far higher inflation.

Professor Meade rejects the two "extremes" of a centralized incomes policy and a perfectly competitive labour market, the former because it would imply excessive government interference, the latter because it would require politically unacceptable moves, for example the cutting off of benefits to the unemployed.

The middle ground, he suggests, lies in a series of independent wage tribunals. These impartial tribunals, whose decision would be final, would, in the Meade scheme, decide in favour of employees' pay claims unless the employers could show that their offer satisfied three conditions.

These are first, that output would be appreciably higher in the long run if the offer, rather than the workers' claim, was instituted. Second, that the offer was within a reasonable range of a overall wage guideline, of say 5 per cent, for the economy. Finally, that the offer did not push the relative pay of the employees more than perhaps 3 per cent below its average over the previous five years.

In other words, companies would have to demonstrate to the tribunal that their offer was good for employment in the long-term but did not impose an excessive squeeze on the relative wages of its workers.

In return for the introduction of wage tribunals, trade unions would be required to give up all the legal privileges and immunities conferred upon them in the 1906 Trade Disputes Act, Professor Meade says. Additional penalties against industrial action, including treating the beginning of a strike as the end of a period of employment for redundancy purposes, and only paying benefits to strikers' families on condition that they would be repaid after the strike, are also included in the scheme.

This mixture of the tough and tender smacks of the SDP/Liberal Alliance approach to wage control, hardly surprising in view of the fact that Professor Meade has been prominent in the formulation of Alliance economic policy.

Professor Meade's paper also endorses the inflation tax proposal of Professor Richard Layard, under which companies would suffer a tax penalty if they increased wages above a generally agreed ceiling.

The interesting question is the extent to which Nigel Lawson, in his Budget a fortnight ago, was stealing the Alliance's clothes. The Budget changes in national insurance contain elements of a Layard-type inflation tax.

The removal of the upper earnings limit on employers' contributions imposes a clear penalty upon large pay increases for already well-paid workers. At the lower end, the new graduated scale of National Insurance contributions, for both employers and employees, also discourages big percentage pay rises.

However, if the Lawson national insurance changes are to be regarded as an inflation tax, they are clearly a modest one. More radical action to control pay is still needed.

David Smith

Economics Correspondent

## Andersen in talks on Asian link

By Ian Griffiths

Arthur Andersen, the world's largest accountancy firm, is holding talks with the top East Asian accountants, the SGV group, about a possible link-up. The talks have been in progress since last summer and are now at an advanced stage. Representatives of the two firms are reviewing each other's operations and a decision on the link should be reached by July, and it could be in place by September.

If the partnership were approved, SGV would become a member of the Arthur Andersen world partnership and provide it with valuable exposure in East Asia. SGV offices in the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Taiwan and Thailand are all considering the link up. Andersen has few offices in those countries. The SGV offices in South Korea have not yet entered into any of the talks.

SGV has created a unique dominance in East Asia and many of the big eight firms use the firm to service clients in that area. It is unclear what would happen to such clients if the link up with Andersen went through.

Arthur Andersen has worldwide fees of more than \$1 billion and \$40 million. The earnings about \$10 million. The main benefit for Arthur Andersen is not the additional fees, but the wider spread of offices. In return SGV will receive technical support and also access to the increasingly important computer expertise

## Currency watch on US banks

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US regulatory authorities have stepped up their scrutiny of banks after the disclosure that a growing number have failed to report currency transactions totalling hundreds of millions of dollars.

Last week, several big banks disclosed to the Treasury that they had violated the US Securities Act by failing to report numerous cash transactions involving \$10,000 (£3,065) or more with individuals and corporations.

The banks voluntarily dis-

closed the violations which they said were uncovered as a result of internal audits. The audits were launched in the wake of the scandal involving the First National Bank of Boston which pleaded guilty last month to a criminal conspiracy for failing to report \$1.27 billion in transactions with European banks.

In addition, First National Bank, a subsidiary of Bank of Boston, disclosed that it handled cash for reputed leaders of organizations without filing the

required reports with the Administration.

Analysts said the currency violations reported last week appear to be the result of administrative errors, rather than attempts to violate the law. Nevertheless the sums involved are large, according to a Treasury official.

The list of banks reporting violations included: Irving Trust Company, Manufacturers Hanover Trust, Bank of New York, First Chicago Corporation and BankAmerica Corp.

## MARKET SUMMARY

## STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	964.3 (-28.1)
FT-AAS Share	618.21 (-10.21)
FT Govt Securities	81.21 (+0.45)
FT-SE 100	1,277.0 (-25.9)
Bargains:	25,513
Dataseam USM	112.88 (+0.27)
New York Dow Jones	1,288.78 (-0.57)
Tokyo Nikkei Dow	12,580.76 (+38.18)
Hong Kong Hang Seng	1,382.04 (+21.25)
Amsterdam	202.7 (-2.9)
Sydney AO	829.7 (+18.9)
Brussels Commerzbank	1,180.9 (-41.5)
General	252.98 (-55.98)
Paris CAC	211.0 (+2.9)
Zurich SICA General	337.90 (-7.7)

## GOLD

London fixing	\$329.80pm-\$329.25
close	\$329.50-\$329.50 (\$267.75-268.75)
New York	\$329.65

## CURRENCIES

Friday's close and change on week	
London:	
E: \$1.2355 (+0.0645)	
E: DM 3.8090 (+0.0261)	
E: Sfr 3.2154 (+0.018)	
E: FF 11.6321 (+0.0884)	
E: Yen 310.05 (+10.74)	
E: Index 77.2 (+1.7)	
New York:	
E: \$1.2485	
E: DM 3.0587	
E: Index 145.9 (-3.9)	

## BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interline: Photo-Me-International, Walker and Homer. Final: Balle, Gifford Technology, Richard Clay, E. J. Sutherland and Son, Kleinwort Benson Gold Fund, London and Edinburgh Trust, Stanley Miller, Planet Group, Queens Moat Houses, Rotaflex, Slough Estates, Sprax-Sarco Engineering, Watts Blake Bears.

TOMORROW - Interline: Arnsco Group, Floyd Oil Participations, Logica, New Court Trust, Steuwa Romans, Tyazak Turner, Final: Alexandra Workwear, Arcotecris, Brammer, BSG International, Coates Bros, Christie Inter-

## Canada ends oil price dispute with lifting of protectionism

From John Best, Ottawa

Canada's federal Government and three oil-producing provinces have signed an agreement which puts an end to years of dispute over oil pricing and taxation levied against petroleum companies.

The new oil pricing system will remove an element of uncertainty which has been hanging over oil companies operating in Canada, many of them British, which have had investment plans affected by the previous system.

BP is about to bring its Wolf Lake tar sands project on stream and other companies such as Ultramar, which has a strong Canadian exploration programme and a refining and marketing operation in Canada, and Sovereign Oil and Gas, which has forged strong links

with Home Oil, will benefit from a surge in Canadian exploration.

Under the agreement, Canadian oil prices will rise to world levels on June 1. Since the oil shocks of the Mid-1970s they have been kept artificially low by the federal Government - which has an overriding power to regulate them - to protect the competitive position of Canadian companies that use oil to fuel their operations.

At present, Canadian-produced crude petroleum is priced as low as C\$29.75, compared with a world price of roughly C\$38.

The agreement between the central government and the province of Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia calls for the Progressive removal of a

federal tax on oil and natural gas reserves which has been earning the federal treasury C\$2.5 billion a year.

How the federal Government is going to make up for the lost tax dollars is not clear. The Minister of Energy, Miss Pat Carney, insisted that it will be more than offset by income tax from the 100,000 to 300,000 Canadians who she said would find new jobs because of the economic stimulus which the tax removal will provide. The levy is to be phased out over three years.

The Government cannot afford to forgo the \$2.5 billion annual income, without compensating for it, if it is to honour its pledge to cut Canada's huge budget deficit

now running at about C\$25 billion a year.

Miss Carney denied that there was anything in the accord that would either increase oil prices to consumers or increase taxes.

Part of the agreement abolishes special federal tax incentives for oil exploration and another eliminates subsidies the Government has been paying on crude oil imported into Eastern Canada, designed to keep oil and petrol prices roughly in line.

The abolition of the British National Oil Corporation does not necessarily mean that Government involvement in setting Britain's North Sea oil price has ended, according to the stockbroker Wood Mackenzie.

## Profits jump 15% at Laird Group

By Philip Robinson

Pre-tax profits of The Laird Group jumped 15 per cent last year. Improvements from scaling systems, services industries and specialist engineering offset the almost halved profits from transport to give Laird taxable profits of £24.1 million for the year ending last December, against £21 million last time. Turnover was barely changed at £318 million.

Laird also benefited from a much lower charge on extraordinary items, which fell from £4.87 million to £768,000 after a 10 per cent rise in the total year's dividend, retained profits more than doubled to £11.1 million.

The 3.5 net total dividend is covered 3.8 times by retained earnings and the results put the 16p share price on a fairly undemanding single-figure price-earnings ratio.

A breakdown of the result shows that the group's scaling systems lifted profits from £7.3 million to £9.6 million; its interest in service industries climbed from £2.5 million to £3.4 million and specialist engineering scored a £3.6 million turnaround going from a £245,000 loss to profits of £3.4 million.

However, profits on its transport systems dropped from £11 million to £5.53 million. The group's second-half performance has outpaced its first. During the first six months to the end of June, profits advanced by 14 per cent.

Since then Laird has almost halved its Metro-Cammell workforce. This was needed largely because of the loss of a £200 million rolling stock contract in Singapore.

## World trade record likely

By John Lawless

World trade will cross the \$2,000 billion (£1,613 billion) level for the first time this year, with increased imports by EEC countries helping to compensate for a levelling of demand in the US, according to Japan's official trade analysts.

The Japan External Trade Organization (Jetro) says the value of global trade this year will reach \$2,082.1 billion.

"This will mean that it will surpass the peak of \$1,994.3 billion in 1980 by 6.1 per cent."

The predictions assume real economic growth of 4.7 per cent for Japan this year, 3 per cent for the US and 2.3 per cent for the EEC.

Although EEC imports are expected to grow by 4.6 per cent, Japan's are forecast to rise by 8.9 per cent.

"With expertise and resources deployed across investment management, banking and insurance, Britannia Arrow is well-equipped to benefit from the financial services revolution."

## UK Investment Management

The profits of the UK activities including Britannia Asset Management and Britannia Unit Trusts for 1984 amounted to £4,600,000 and funds under management in the UK had grown to £1,100 million at 31 December.

## International Investment Management

The profits of Gardner and Preston Moss and Financial Programs both in the USA and of Britannia International in Jersey increased to £5,100,000 for 1984. Funds under management in the USA and Jersey were £3,400 million at 31 December.

## Merchant Banking

The acquisition of Singer & Friedlander last April has significantly broadened our base in financial services. Singer & Friedlander has an established reputation in the merchant banking field and a regional network providing it with a unique base from which to continue its development and growth. The profits for 1984 amounted to a record £9,100,000.

## Insurance

In the first full year within the Group, National Employers Life (NEL) has continued to make good progress in its traditional lines of business. Firm foundations have been laid to develop new types of business, particularly unit linked, and to widen the sales methods. NEL Group premium income rose to £76,000,000 in 1984 and its total funds amounted to £408 million.

## Unaudited 1984 Preliminary Results

	1984	1983
Total pre-tax profits	£23.7m	£11.2m
Pre-tax profits (excluding extraordinary profits and exchange gains)	£14.1m	£10.1m
Earnings per share	6.3p	6.1p
Ordinary dividend proposed (1983 paid)	2.5p	2.3p
Funds under management	£4,800m	£3,200m

**Britannia Arrow Holdings PLC**

The annual report will be posted to shareholders on 30th April 1985. For a copy and for further information on our financial services please write to The Secretaries, Britannia Arrow Holdings PLC, Salisbury House, 29 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 3QL.

## US NOTEBOOK

## Fed losing power and influence

The decline in the power of the Federal Reserve to influence events has been given its most revealing expression in the last five months.

Late last October, the Fed, in response to the proddings of its vice chairman, Mr Peston Martin and external critics (President Reagan) instituted a violent switch in policy. Money growth was powerfully accelerated.

Whereas between early June and early November money M1 grew at only 2.2 per cent a year and the monetary base (bank's reserve plus currency) grew at only 3.3 per cent a year, in the period from early last November to early last month, the annual growth rate of money M1 exploded to 12.4 per cent and the annual growth rate of the monetary base also exploded to 9.1 per cent.

Yet this explosion in money growth has produced not accelerating economic growth but continuing very modest economic growth. It has produced not inflation but a growing suspicion that deflation is the more likely prospect for the United States.

During this very important period for monetary policy - the five months from November to March - any of the normally expected results from accelerating money growth (inflation, accelerating growth of gross national products) were squashed by the reaction of the bond markets.

June Treasury-bond futures, which had risen from \$9 in June 1984 to 71 in November, started to fall, giving an upward twist to interest rates and declining or stable prices of financial assets, including stocks. By the end of February the June T-bond contract was down to 68.

The release of the first-quarter real GNP figures - showing a rise of 2 per cent a year - confirmed the breaking of the link between money and GNP.

But the bond markets are not completely unresponsive. Bond futures leapt out in February, and began to rise as March progressed.

As of now, bonds are starting to look good again. Shares will benefit from the alleviation of stress in the fixed income markets. The US economy will benefit from the relief on the balance of trade. Out of it all, the Fed emerges as almost irrelevant, powerless and lost in the hinterland between money and prices/GNP, a link that appears to have broken.

Maxwell Newton











FOOTBALL

# United claim star billing for semi-final despite a poor dress rehearsal

By Leslie Duxbury

Liverpool.....0  
Manchester United.....1

There is a superstition in the theatre that a below-par dress rehearsal ensures an excellent first night. On that basis, the FA Cup semi-final between Liverpool and Manchester United ought to be a classic. For on the whole, this League meeting was disappointing. It was red-blooded enough and full of tension, but for long periods it lacked a touch of class.

Skill and vision were rarely in evidence - had the ball spent any more time in the air, particularly in the first half, it would have grown wings in the evolutionary process - and much-vaunted forwards like Rush, of Liverpool, and Hughes and Stapleton, of United, were held in check by quick and authoritative central defenders.

The one time the forwards got on top, Stapleton scored for United, to keep them in the Championship battle and presumably kill off Liverpool's hopes.

The goal came in the 73rd minute. For the first time in the match the buffeted Hughes was unscathed by either Hansen or Lawrenson, and had time to pick out Whiteside, who was loose on the left. To cap a collective aberration by the Liverpool defence, Stapleton was left unmarked as Hughes' cross came over and the Eire international headed home.

The game began at the established pace for English football: hell for leather. Daiglish neatly fed Rush whose pass went perfectly in Nicol's stride but he shot wide. Whiteside, in his new midfield role and just as aggressive, tried to fling himself through the middle, only to be smothered by a mountain of Liverpool defenders.

However, a dire stalemate quickly followed, with the ball arcing from penalty area to penalty area like a demented spark. Neither midfield was particularly inventive or effective and with Hansen and Lawrenson, and McGrath and Hogg, ruling over their respective kingdoms, a stand-off was inevitable. Liverpool pleaded for a penalty when Albiston's legs got locked with Nicol's, but the referee decided the transgression was mutual.

The second half brought a big improvement, as Liverpool managed to achieve some of that relentless momentum which is their trade mark - few other teams can sustain forward motion for as long as they can.

But the finish was not as impressive as the build-up. Rush headed over a tempting cross; Nicol was wide when Daiglish's square pass set him on the edge of the area; and Rush ballooned another header into Bailey's arms.

Then United scored against the run of play, but the effect on the match was crucial. Confidence oozed into United like

blood from a transfusion, and they began to play thoughtfully and carefully. Olsen and Strachan bobbed and weaved, and we saw more of Robson, who had been largely invisible in the midfield malstrom.

Liverpool, who had lost Kevin Keegan, injured in a collision with Hughes, strove mightily to get back on terms, but to no avail. It was hardly the sort of launching pad for that semi-final and United must now be favourites to progress to Wembley.

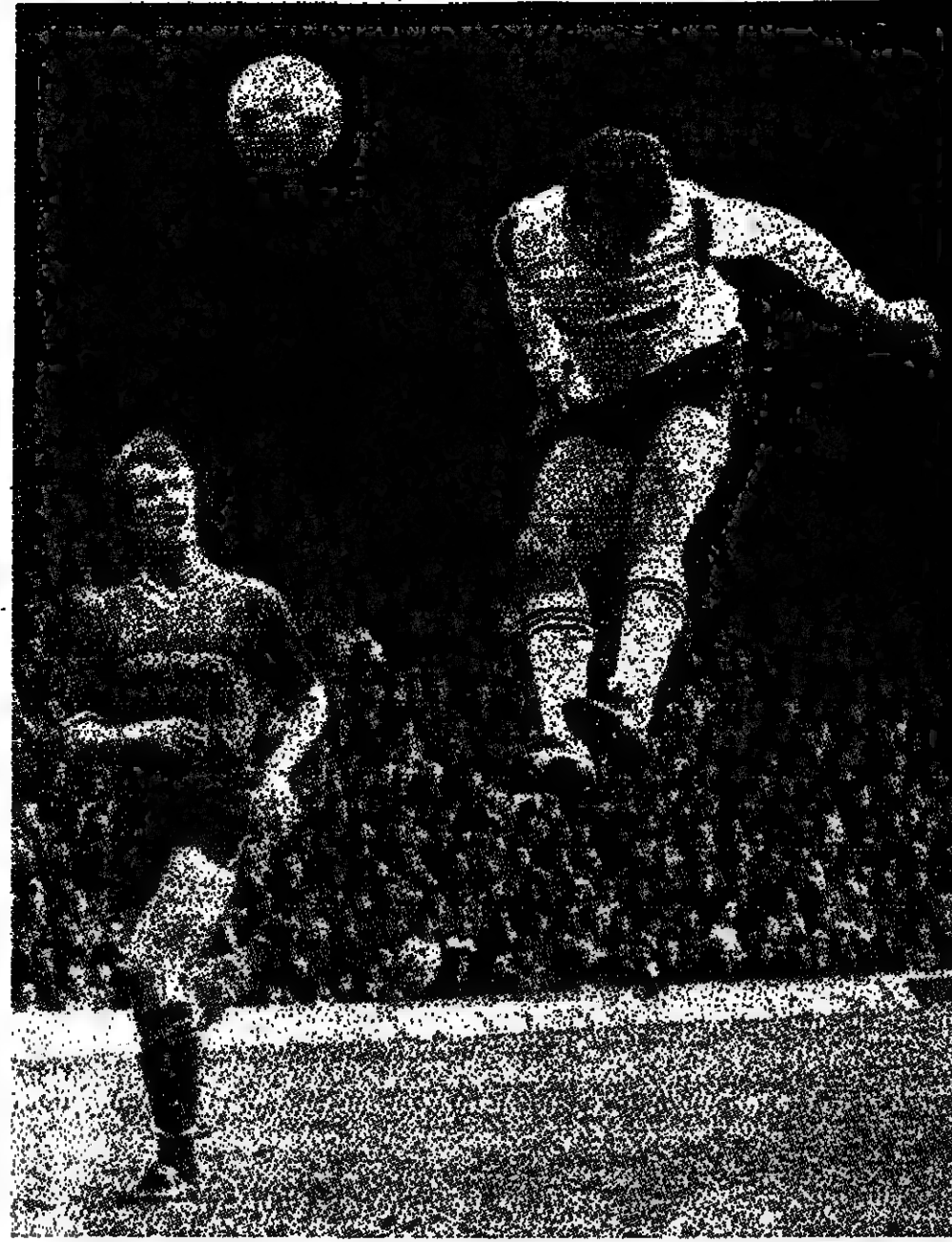
LIVERPOOL: B. Gribben, P. Neal, A. Kennedy (sub: P. Walsh), M. Lawrenson, S. Nicol, J. Hansen, K. Daiglish, R. Whelan, R. Rush, K. MacDonald, J. Wark. MANCHESTER UNITED: G. Bailey, J. Olsen, A. Abelson, N. Whiteside, G. McGrath, G. Hogg, B. Robson, G. Strachan, M. Hughes, F. Stapleton, J. Elliott. Referee: J. Worrall (Warrington).

## Swindon win

A last minute goal by Coyne brought Swindon victory in front of their lowest league gate of the season, 2,215. Swindon fell behind to a third-minute goal by Dixon, Fifteen minutes later Taylor of Hartlepool was sent off for a foul on Hockaday, who suffered a badly gashed shin and had to be carried off. Gordon equalized after 75 minutes with a diving header and Coyne lifted a shot over Stevenson for the winner.

## Leading scorers

FIRST DIVISION: K. Doon (Chelsea) 30; M. Falco (Tottenham) 24; G. Strang (Liverpool) 24; J. Butler (Leicester) 12; J. Worrall (Warrington) 12; J. Worrall (Warrington) 12.



Frank admiration? Whelan can only watch as Stapleton scores United's winner

# Points, not Tottenham caught in own trap

By Simon O'Hagan

When Watford finished runners-up to Liverpool two seasons ago, it seemed only a matter of time before the division would be won by the two teams. In 1984 they were eleven and this season they have kicked and rushed their way into a relegation struggle.

Down there with them are West Ham United, whose method of keeping out of trouble has been traditionally more sophisticated. When these teams meet, as they do at Vicarage Road tomorrow, it seems probable that the contest will dwell on the contrast in styles. On this occasion, however, the points will doubtless come before the principles.

West Ham go into the match having lost the filip of an unexpected away win over Nottingham Forest on Saturday. Cottee put West Ham ahead, their first goal at the City Ground since Geoff Hargreaves scored there in 1969. Goodard secured victory after Hargreaves equalized. Watford, meanwhile, were losing 2-0 at Queen's Park Rangers, who now looking relatively stable after a spell of mid-season turbulence. Filary scored both goals late in the first half.

Sunderland are perennially involved in a flint division survival game and they warmed up to the coming challenge with a 2-0 defeat at home against Ipswich. Davies were the men responsible for their side's gaining a little comfort after losing in the Mik Cup semi-final to the same opposition. Ipswich City, on the other hand, levelled on points with Sunderland but below them on goal-difference.

Easily the most surprising result in the first division was achieved by the bottom club Stoke City who, in Grand National terms, should have been long ago. Painter (a penalty) and Dyson gave them a 2-0 win over a fading Arsenal, their first victory at home since beating Manchester United on Boxing Day. Arsenal have now gone five away games without scoring.

At the top of the second division Oxford United reaffirmed their position with a 1-0 win at home against Grimsby Town. They are now two points behind Manchester City but, with three games in hand, took the best placed of the leading clubs to go up. City were unexpectedly held at home by Cardiff City. Birmingham City and Blackburn Rovers both won, but Portsmouth could only manage a goalless draw at Shrewsbury Town.

## George Cox

George Cox, who played football for Arsenal and cricket for Sussex, died on Saturday after a heart attack. He was 73.

## First division

Luton Town	3	Ipswich City	1
Sheff Wed	2	Sheff Wed	2
Sheff Wed	2	Sheff Wed	2
Sheff Wed	2	Sheff Wed	2
Sheff Wed	2	Sheff Wed	2
Sheff Wed	2	Sheff Wed	2
Sheff Wed	2	Sheff Wed	2
Sheff Wed	2	Sheff Wed	2
Sheff Wed	2	Sheff Wed	2
Sheff Wed	2	Sheff Wed	2

## Second division

Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0
Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0
Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0
Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0
Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0
Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0
Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0
Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0
Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0
Blackburn City	1	Wolverhampton	0

## Third division

Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0
Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0
Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0
Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0
Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0
Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0
Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0
Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0
Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0
Bradford City	1	Plymouth Argyle	0

## Fourth division

Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0
Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0
Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0
Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0
Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0
Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0
Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0
Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0
Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0
Altrincham	1	Stokeport County	0

## Scottish premier division

Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0
Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0
Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0
Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0
Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0
Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0
Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0
Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0
Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0
Glasgow Celtic	1	Dundee United	0

## Scottish first division

Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0
Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0
Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0
Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0
Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0
Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0
Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0
Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0
Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0
Ayr United	1	Glasgow City	0

## Scottish second division

Albion Rovers	1	Dundee City	0
Albion Rovers	1	Dundee City	0
Albion Rovers	1	Dundee City	0
Albion Rovers	1	Dundee City	0
Albion Rovers	1	Dundee City	0
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Albion Rovers	1	Dundee City	0
Albion Rovers	1	Dundee City	0
Albion Rovers	1	Dundee City	0

## ATHLETICS

### IAAF group to discuss timing of Seoul events

Rome (Renter) - The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) yesterday set up a four-man committee to discuss the contentious question of the athletics timetable at the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games. Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF president who will lead the committee, said he hoped the timetable would be ready for approval in two or three months.

# Points, not Tottenham caught in own trap

By Vince Wright

Tottenham Hotspur.....0  
Aston Villa.....2

One of the dangers facing teams who play the offside game is that they have to rely on the opposition being penalized. As Aston Villa's manager, Graham Turner pointed out, you choose to play in the offside game and you choose to play in the offside game.

Tottenham Hotspur discovered this to their cost on Saturday when two border-line decisions went against them. The result was a goal in each instance and an unexpected home defeat which has damaged their chances of winning the League championship.

The way Tottenham operate the offside trap has never been entirely convincing anyway but their manager, Peter Shrivvers, said afterwards that he saw no reason to abandon the tactic. One would have thought that this match would have been a warning to Tottenham.

After 21 minutes Tottenham's defenders, pushing up, were caught flat-footed by Gibson's early ball which put Riddell clear. The linesman's flag stayed down and the Villa forward almost hit too much time to advance, steady himself, take aim and beat Clemence.

There was even more of a suspicion of offside about Villa's opening goal. Just before the whistle, Ombay, having stopped Falco with a masterly tackle, released Walters with an impeccable, diagonal pass and Walters, as unattended as Riddell had been, admitted a slipperily Clemence to finish flawlessly.

Despite the controversial nature of the goals, any sympathy for Tottenham would be misplaced. They were like a pianist playing all the wrong notes. Villa, however, were in perfect harmony.

Villa varied their attacks intelligently too. While led the line superbly and unselfishly, Walters was always dangerous and the Frenchman, Sir, is beginning to adapt to the demands of English football.

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# Everton rewrite the script

By Stuart Jones

Southampton.....1  
Everton.....2

Wednesday night at White Hart Lane was to be given top billing on the season's fixture list. In the script Tottenham Hotspur were to be their own stage with Everton, and, in probably sharing the honours, the two clubs would have prepared the way for an intriguing final lap in the championship race.

But Saturday's 1-2 reversal went unexpectedly and horribly awry. While Tottenham were falling down at home, Everton were stretching their unbeaten run to 17 games, and their last loss to three goals, winning at the Dell for the first time since 1972, they became favourites to collect the title for the first time since 1970.

Laurie McMenemy, whose Southampton side lost 5-1 at Tottenham the previous Saturday, confirms Everton's position. "They are well organized and have a good pattern. They pack men around the ball and don't give anything away. There are areas you can penetrate. Tottenham, Everton may not have their star names, but they are the better all-round team."

Everton themselves were penalized after conceding to McMenemy to claim justifiably that Southampton might have dramatically altered the picture. But

It made a change to hear the ever-enthusiastic David Plead, manager of Luton, enthusing about his team at Kenilworth Road on Saturday. Luton's run in the FA Cup semi-final stage has given them more resilience, he says, than the purchase of hardened professionals like Harford, Foster and Nicholas. Since they settled into the side, Luton have gone 10 home games without defeat, and have lost only one loss in their last nine games. They are confronting the danger of relegation with a confident smile.

It must be some time since one said of Luton that they could have won 9-1. Yet in the first 30 minutes of this strange game, one could have been forgiven for forecasting something more like 1-9. Ipswich were all over Luton in that period, but were rewarded with only one goal. It should have been enough to encourage them further, but such is the fragile state of their confidence that when one goal was the opposite end they fell apart like cardboard characters.

Brennan and Gates had been given the freehold of midfield, but now Stein dropped in to occupy Brennan, and Nicholas could give

# A winning way with spectators

By Hugh Taylor

Once again severe weather has been the ally of the Scottish premier division title. With all the other matches postponed, because of snow, they took full advantage of their good fortune to beat Dundee United 4-2 and move within six points of their second successive championship victory. With five games remaining, Aberdeen are eight points clear of closest rivals, Celtic.

Aberdeen's luck with the weather - they have not been forced to postpone one home league game this season - led to a double flip for the club, now far ahead of their rivals in skill, organization and consistency. Not only did Aberdeen clear the highest hurdle left in their run-in to the league crown, they also lifted their Scottish Cup hopes against United, who meet Aberdeen in the semi-final.

Hewitt was in excellent form again, scoring twice and assisting in another goal while Stark provided an assist. The team's performance was capped by scoring his eighteenth goal of the season. The other Dons marksmen was Cowan.

Although Aberdeen were merited victors, United showed more than a few glimpses of their much-admired brand of well balanced, progressive football and helped to present a fine game. Bannan (penalty) and Reilly were their scorers.

Fleetwood Town are through to the Wembley final of the FA Vase later this month, thanks to an own goal 10 minutes from the end of Saturday's second leg of their semi-final against Exmouth Town.

Fleetwood (North-West Counties League) 3-2 from the first leg at Exmouth (Great Mills Western League) levelled their much-admired cross by Trainer into his own net.

Halesowen Town (West Midlands League) and Walsby Town (Eastern Counties League) replay at Nuneaton Borough's ground on Wednesday after drawing the second leg of their semi-final 2-2 (aggregate 3-3). Moss gave Halesowen the lead after only 45 seconds but Score replied for Walsby three minutes later. Lee Joinson restored Halesowen's advantage shortly before the interval but Gallagher scored a second equalizer to tie the vision seven minutes from the end.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

# Rovers go roving but four are sent off

By Keith Macklin

Four players were sent off when fighting erupted in the closing stages of the game between Hull Kingston Rovers and Barrow in the Slalom Lager Championship yesterday.

The referee, David Carter, dismissed Hull's substitute, David Watkinson, and Barrow's prop, Andy Sykes, near the end of the match. Then, in injury time, he ordered off Hull's forward, Phil Hogan, and Barrow's hooker, John Lightfoot, after another brawl.

Hull KR won the match comfortably, as anticipated, 40-18. The Rovers' tries came from Miller, 2, Rudd, 2, Lydiate, 2, Clark and Hall, with Fairbairn kicking three goals and Lydiate a penalty.

With the 17-year-old college student, Martin Dermott, heavily beaten in the scrums by the experienced international, David Watkinson, Hull's injury-hit and battle-weary team were beaten by a rampant Leeds 36-18 at Headingley.

Leeds scored four tries in the first half, capitalizing on Ward's scrum possession and the absence of the hard-scrumming Wigan forward, Ian Fulton.

Although Wigan made a spirited second-half rally to score three tries,

Leeds were never in any danger of being overhauled, and stay on top of the league. Their only disappointment were the injuries sustained by Graeme and Holmes.

The Leeds tries came from Paterson, 2, Cresser, 2, Grodie, Holmes and Rayne, with Cresser kicking four goals. For Wigan, Ford scored two splendid individual tries, and Courtney and Edwards also crossed, with Gill kicking a goal.

St Helen's maintained their football in the championship race in a thrilling game at Knowsley Road, making up a 10 points deficit early on to win 20-10.

Warrington 30-28. Halifax made virtually certain of avoiding relegation. They beat a Hull side with only four regulars in the squad, 20-2, with tries from Beavers, Moll and Neller, and with four goals from Agar.



## Beyond the realms of sporting sanity

**Simon Barnes**

of course, the National is passionate with its fans with their necks for sale and the horses delicious. It was made yet more enjoyable by the fact that there were

no horses killed, and no jockeys crippled this year. The National is sport taken to the boundaries of sanity, and a little beyond. It is a cavalry charge to victory or a broken neck when horses are ridden for death or for glory. *C'est magnifique mais ce n'est pas le sport*

and nearly abreast of Daxon. At the first ditch Conrad, frightened by the crowd, refused and threw Becher, and Cannon-ball fell. Daxon got "through" it. The Nun taking it next, with the other mentioned above as lying with them. At the next ditch Barkston fell; at the third Daxon "followed suit," and in attempting to get up knocked down The Nun. Charity now took the lead, followed by Lottery, Railroad, Jack, Seventy-four, and kept it to the stone wall, which he refused. Railroad took it, followed by Lottery, The Nun, True Blue, and Jack, and kept in

beyond the lane; Lottery now made the running, clearing his fences in beautiful style; on reaching the racecourse Seventy-four was lying second, and behind him Railroad, Pioneer, Paulina, True Blue, Jack, and one or two others. Lottery took the last jump splendidly, and won closely by

second, Paulina third, and True Blue fourth.

McEnroe with the  
Milan tournament yesterday.

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**CRICKET**

**New Zealand  
lose Coney**

**in fightback**

Port of Spain (Reuter) - New Zealand continued their fightback during the third morning of the first Test match here today, reaching 217 for five at lunch in reply to West Indies' first innings of 307.

New Zealand added only 51 runs to their overnight total of 166 for four, losing Coney leg-before to the

Coney added 50 for the fifth wicket with his captain, Howarth, who scored only 19 runs in the morning to take his total to 44 not out at lunch. He was partnered by Hadlee, who was unbeaten on 13 at the interval.

easy caught-and-bowled chance to Holding when he had scored only six runs. Marshall and Holding bowled with pace and fire on a lifeless Queen's Park Oval pitch, beating the bat on several occasions. Ten minutes were lost through rain.

Chailley's medium pace wrecked the West Indies' middle and lower orders, sending back Logie, Dujon, Marshall and Harper in the space of seven balls to finish with the best figures of four for 51. Only Richards, the West Indies captain, with an attacking 57, offered any real resistance, hitting Cairns for 16 in one over.

WEST INDIES: First innings		
C G Greenidge	c Book	100
D L Haynes	c Rutherford, b Hadlee	0
A B Gomes	c Smith b Hadlee	0
R B Richardson	c Hadlee b Coney	78
I V A Richards	b Hadlee	-57
A L Lodge	b Chatfield	24
M J Dixon	b Chatfield	15

M D Marshall c sub b Chertfield	0
R A Harper c Howarth b Chertfield	0
M A Holding l-b-w b Hadlee	12
J Garner not out	0
Extras (b 1, l-b 16, n-b 4)	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>307</b>
<b>FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-9, 3-194, 4-188,</b>	
<b>5-288, 6-287, 7-287, 8-288, 9-312, 10-317</b>	

**NEW ZEALAND: First Innings**

J G Wright c Richardson b Harper	40
K Rutherford c Haynes b Marshall	0
J Crouse c and b Harper	64
D D Crouse b-a-r b Holding	3
T P Housworth not out	

Y Conway 1-b w Marshall	44
R J Hadlee not out	13
Extras (b 4, 1-b 6, n-b 16)	28
Total (5 wickets)	217
D S Smith, B L Cairns, E J Chatfield and S L	
Book to bat.	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-110, 3-113, 4-132	
1-182	

**BOWLING:** Marshall 21-2-64-2; Garner  
17-6-34-0; Holding 19-3-68-1; Harper  
22-11-33-2; Richards 2-0-7-0; James



RACING

# English Spring set to blossom for Balding

By Mandarin

Ian Balding and Pat Eddery, who joined forces to good effect with King Of Clubs on the opening day of the Flat season at Doncaster, can team up successfully again at Nottingham this afternoon when English Spring is napped to win the Sunstar Stakes.

Balding's two-year-olds were never really firing last season and it was not until the closing months that he began to saddle winners with his customary regularity. In fact, only one of his nine juvenile successes came before September.

After promising efforts at Sandown Park (twice) and Salisbury, English Spring got off the mark at Beverley in September. The daughter of Grey Dawn II then twice ran creditably in group company in Italy, chasing home the champion Italian juvenile filly, Miss Gris, in the first of those races at San Siro.

With the Kingsclere runners likely to show above-average improvement from two to three, English Spring is a confident choice to beat Lace Bandanna and Gundreda, the only other runners with tangle form.

This pair occupied the first two places in a division of a Wolverhampton maiden in

Balding: late winners

October and Lace Bandanna, who has since changed stables from Jeremy Tree to Nick Vigors, should confirm the form. A bigger danger than either of these, however, could be Miss Galvin, a newcomer trained by Ben Hanbury, who has booked Steve Cauthen to ride this daughter of Al Hattab. Hanbury saddles Tova in the preceding Manna Stakes and this Canadian-bred colt is expected to step up on his promising sixth to Dubai Tornado at Brighton in October. However, I prefer the claims of Rikikiri Rei, who was thrown in

the deep end when seventh behind Foulaud in the Clarence House Stakes at Ascot in September and is obviously well thought of by his trainer, Charlie Nelson.

Mel's Choice has been a frustrating horse to follow in recent seasons but he finally came good towards the end of last season with victories in valuable sponsored handicaps at Ayr and Ascot.

The seven-year-old has 10 stone in the opening Felstead Handicap but should be all the better for his fourth to Air Commanded at Ayr a week ago. Mel Britain, his trainer, has already had a winner with Dublin Lad at Catterick on Wednesday.

Bold Illusion is likely to be a warm order for the Coronach Handicap following his good second to Ridgfield at Leicester last week but I give marginal preference to the consistent Mr Music Man.

This 11-year-old gelding never runs a bad race and will be all the better for his run at Leicester where he chased home Rocky's Gal who, like Bold Illusion, was already fighting fit from a winter's lay-off. Bold Illusion, was already fighting fit from a winter's lay-off. Bold Illusion, was already fighting fit from a winter's lay-off.

## Bolger plans fluid

From Desmond Stotham, Paris

Park Appeal may miss the General Accident 1,000 Guineas and go instead for the French equivalent, the Poule d'Essai des Poulains. Speaking at Saint-Cloud on Saturday night, Bolger said: "I think Sheikh Mohammed will run Oh So Sharp at Newmarket as she is already based there. But nothing is definite until after the 1000 Guineas. Park Appeal will be in four races in 1984, including the Tattersall's Cheveley Park Stakes. If Park Appeal travels to Longchamps for the Pouliches, she could meet Trudy who romped home in the Prix Marcel Boussac over the Pouliches course when trained by David Sima. She has since moved to David O'Brien in Ireland.

Park Appeal will re-appear in the Northridge Stakes at Phoenix Park. Bolger was at Saint-Cloud to Saddle Blushing Redhead for the

## Crews Hill no back number

Crews Hill discovered a new lease of life when hanging on to win the Grisons Handicap by two lengths from Peonday at Lingfield Park on Saturday. The nine-year-old, who won the 1981 Stewards Cup, was claiming his 11th career success and the first for three years. He will now tackle the Abernethy Stakes at Newmarket in a fortnight.

Ground conditions were atrocious, but Marley Roofus and High Picked shrugged them aside to complete a double. Bolger's trainer Michael Haynes, Marley Roofus stayed on to beat economy favourite Baton Passer a length and a half in the Wade Farm Handicap at Epsom.

High Picked, fought a ding-dong battle with Tom Forester before landing the Union Transport Handicap by a head.

## Saturday's results

**LIVORPOOL**  
1.200, 1. Kettlebell (10-11) 2. Jo Colombo (10-11) 3. Western Rose (10-11) 4. Rose Revue (10-11) 5. Pousage (10-11) 6. Pousage (10-11) 7. Pousage (10-11) 8. Pousage (10-11) 9. Pousage (10-11) 10. Pousage (10-11) 11. Pousage (10-11) 12. Pousage (10-11) 13. Pousage (10-11) 14. Pousage (10-11) 15. Pousage (10-11) 16. Pousage (10-11) 17. Pousage (10-11) 18. Pousage (10-11) 19. Pousage (10-11) 20. Pousage (10-11) 21. Pousage (10-11) 22. Pousage (10-11) 23. Pousage (10-11) 24. Pousage (10-11) 25. Pousage (10-11) 26. Pousage (10-11) 27. Pousage (10-11) 28. Pousage (10-11) 29. Pousage (10-11) 30. Pousage (10-11) 31. Pousage (10-11) 32. Pousage (10-11) 33. Pousage (10-11) 34. Pousage (10-11) 35. Pousage (10-11) 36. Pousage (10-11) 37. Pousage (10-11) 38. Pousage (10-11) 39. Pousage (10-11) 40. Pousage (10-11) 41. Pousage (10-11) 42. Pousage (10-11) 43. Pousage (10-11) 44. Pousage (10-11) 45. Pousage (10-11) 46. Pousage (10-11) 47. Pousage (10-11) 48. Pousage (10-11) 49. Pousage (10-11) 50. 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# UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

01-837 1326 and 01-837 3774

## UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

### JAMES BIBBY CHAIR OF ENGINEERING MANUFACTURE

Applications are invited for the newly established James Bibby Chair of Engineering Manufacture in the Faculty of Engineering.

The Faculty has recently received a generous gift to enable the Chair to support new academic and research posts, and to develop the equipment in connection with the Chair. The new posts will be in the areas of Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, and Industrial Engineering. The new posts will be in the areas of Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, and Industrial Engineering. The new posts will be in the areas of Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, and Industrial Engineering.

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The salary will be in the range of £15,000 to £20,000 per annum, and will be subject to review with effect from 1st April 1986.

Applications should be sent to the Chair of Engineering Manufacture, University of Liverpool, PO Box 147, Liverpool, L69 3BX.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL VICE-CHANCELLORSHIP

A Joint Committee has been established by the Council and the Senate of the University, under the Chairmanship of the President of Council, to nominate a successor to the late Professor R. F. Whelan.

The Joint Committee is assembling a list of those who might be considered for appointment, and has asked a number of people to make suggestions. The Committee wishes to consider as wide a range of people as possible, and anyone who would like to suggest a name or names to the Committee, preferably before the end of April 1985, to the President of the Council, The University of Liverpool, PO Box 147, Liverpool, L69 3BX.

## PREPARATORY AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

01-837 1326 and 01-837 3774

### ST. SWITHUN'S SCHOOL

## HEADSHIP

The Council of St. Swithun's School invite applications for the above post for September 1986 following the retirement of Miss Olwen Davies.

Details of the post and method of application may be obtained from the Clerk to the Council of St. Swithun's School, Winchester, Hants. SO21 1HA. Closing date for applications 1st May 1985.

### St Christopher School

Letworth Herts SG6 3JZ.

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

A person of energy, enthusiasm and high competency is needed to take charge of music throughout the school. St Christopher has a strong tradition in the creative arts and the new director will have full support in developing the department which is housed in a most attractive modern building.

Salary related to Burnham scale 3, DES. Superannuation, and other benefits including gratuity reduced fees for staff children. Possibility of single or family accommodation.

Further details from Colin Reid (head) to whom applications should be made as soon as possible (and by 29th April at the latest) enclosing a full CV and names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees.

## THE PURCELL SCHOOL

Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex

Applications are invited for the post of

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

In succession to Mr Colin Howard

The new Director will be expected to take up the post not later than 1st January 1986.

Letters of application with names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees by 22nd April to

Lady Greaves, Chairman of the Governors  
c/o Miss Dina Lewis  
3, Townfield, Rickmansworth, Herts.

From whom full details may be obtained.

### Wallop School

## HEAD

Applications are invited for the post of Head of this substantial and respected Preparatory School (235 boys) following the untimely death of the Headmaster.

Details from: Secretary, Wallop School, Waybridge, Surrey KT18 5YD. Appointment for September, 1985, or later. Salary c. £12,000-£14,000, by negotiation.

### MARLBOROUGH HOUSE SCHOOL

HAWKESBURY, KENT, TN11 8PY

Headmaster in September 1985. A qualified teacher of mathematics and science with experience in preparing and supervising candidates in the application of computer technology in other subjects.

Headmaster in September 1985. A qualified teacher of mathematics and science with experience in preparing and supervising candidates in the application of computer technology in other subjects.

# Lessons in life at work

Barrie Sherman on education pitfalls and today's vocational training

Fashion is a very fickle thing. Skirts can be tight one week and by the next entire wardrobes full of them are useless. Hair can be up, then short, then green and then cut Princess style in the space of six months.

However, it is not only the appearance of people that depends on the whims of fashion makers. We have seen it in economics, one year the public sector borrowing requirement, then the balance of trade and a year later inventory analysis, have dominated the pundits' pages and the airwaves.

There are indeed fashions in politics, in arts and even in language but the one that has the most lasting effect is the fashion in education.

During the past decade we have not only experienced changes in teaching methods, running the gamut of simply style informal to the Dr Arnold rigid, but have also seen the contribution of the comprehensive and grammar argument.

The Sex Discrimination Act is having its impact, although generally only in the peripheral areas - such as boys unwillingly doing needlework or girls playing rugby, and to some extent this is fashion, too. One has only to listen to the questions at school open days to recognize the questions and the motivations.

We now see fashions in schools. Some are over-subscribed to such an extent that within three years they cease to be fashionable. Trends and fashions in the subjects that are taught change. Computer sciences, German, are fashionable at the moment, while Latin, Russian (last year's fashion) and geography are in retreat. However, the most important fashion of all is the overall style of education. At the moment it is vocational training.

It is difficult to think of circumstances which could make this more of a disaster in the longer term, at least if vocational is defined in conventional terms. If technology is changing rapidly and skills, crafts and knowledge become increasingly more quickly outdated, then an education system which is dedicated to teaching about a job or a group of jobs has an inbuilt redundancy-causing mechanism.

There are a number of experiments in vocational teaching at present and the concept clearly has the blessing of those in power in ministerial and business circles.

However, these appear to be an attempt to familiarize the pupils with the idea and the world of work and include some time spent on working premises rather than a quasi-apprenticeship.

Much of the fashion arises because employers have been critical of the school system, including the polytechnic and university systems. Their

argument is that the subjects taught are too academic and that young people have to learn the labor market unprepared for work in either discipline or the relevant knowledge.

This opens up a second line of questions alongside those about the relevance of such education and this is whether it is appropriate for educational establishments or employers to undertake this form of work.

The two sets of questions are not really being asked, let alone answered, and herein lies a tragedy. The future of not only the young people themselves but of British industry, indeed society, depends on getting these answers right. Although this may appear to be melodramatic it is not far from reality.

To make the most of the new information technologies and the production techniques we need to have an expert, adaptive, flexible and aware labour force. This applies to all levels - from managers to sweepers, from engineers to salespeople; and from doctors to train drivers.

In all cases an ability to adapt to new systems and techniques will be the most valued of skills. This implies a breadth of vision and a confidence in one's own intrinsic abilities rather than a narrow view and a confidence in a specific and limited technique or subject. This implies changes, not only in what is taught, but also in how things are taught.

The preoccupation with vocational training and teaching stems from an analysis of what our competitors do in these areas, especially the West Germans. It is, however, a misreading. Not only does the German vocational training come after schooling through a comprehensive apprenticeship system but this system has a very large element of general teaching in it.

In essence it is as much general as specific education, including social subjects such as music, art and history, subjects which the new British fashion is labelling as irrelevant.

From the point of view of work surely employers have a responsibility to train their young people in the skills they need. There should be a high level of literacy and numeracy, but what is needed even is confidence to tackle new challenges.

It is here that general education should come into its own. It is, however, a matter of how things are taught and the inference that can be drawn from subjects rather than teaching the subject matter in a parrot-like fashion.

Most people who have been lucky enough to escape academic good Youth Training Scheme which allows the youngsters to expand, indeed encourages or even demands that they do so, have been very impressed by the results. Young people who achieved little or nothing at school make good public presentations, do sophisticated research and show imaginative yet well structured ideas when given the sort of projects that the schools never encouraged.

There is a wealth of latent talent out there but too few good Youth Training Schemes and too few jobs to allow it to manifest itself.

Teaching should be about getting young people to learn. Learning to learn is probably the single most important subject in Britain today. It is, however, rather low on the educational agenda. In this respect compared with many of our competitors.

In place of learning to learn we are teaching more job-oriented subjects at many schools and furthermore jobs that are disappearing at a great rate - even those directly concerned with computers. What is worse is that we are teaching these to children who at an early age have been selected out of

the ethnic race and who are thus tagged "failures".

It is interesting that much of the Youth Training Scheme echoes this fashion and is unpopular among the young. Equally interesting is the new fashion from the United States where specific degrees or skills are being left behind as companies, especially the high-tech ones, are recruiting classics and general graduates. They claim they need imagination - in Britain it seems we do not.

As the working lifetime decreases and more time is spent at leisure, the need to cope with new matters becomes even more important. From the point of view of an individual an ability to try new forms of free time activities raises horizons and defeats the street corner. For society as a whole the need to have income generated in the service and leisure sector grows as the number of people working in manufacturing falls.

Without an aware, and a moneyed set of young people this sector will stagnate. We shall have to wait the inevitable fashion change but for all our sakes it should be soon if we are to avoid falling even further behind and adding to our community trouble.

Barrie Sherman is a writer and broadcaster who has written for the BBC and the Independent.

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# EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

01-837 1326 and 01-837 3774

## Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya UNIVERSITY OF GARTOONIB BENGHAZI

Invites applications for posts of English Language Assistant Professors, Lecturers, and Assistant Lecturers for the Academic Year 1985-86 (effective September 1, 1985).

### Qualifications Required

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M.A. in English Language with several years' experience  
M.A. with course work and experience in TOEFL with B.A. in English language  
Ph.D. in TOEFL or Linguistics with TOEFL experience

### Salary scale

Assistant Professor 6840 L.D. to 7560 L.D. per annum

Lecturer 6240 L.D. to 6840 L.D. per annum

Assistant Lecturer 5265 L.D. to 6240 L.D. per annum

(One Libyan Dinar = \$3.36 US or £2.00 approx.)

Other benefits include round trip airfares from the place of recruitment to Benghazi for staff member, wife/husband, and up to four children (below 18 years old) at beginning and end of contract. Housing is provided by the University. Furniture allowance is two months salary given at start of contract for married staff accompanied by their families, and one month for single staff members.

In addition an excess baggage of up to 25% of the price of airfares.

Leave travel tickets (for July and August summer vacation) to the place of recruitment for the staff member and his family are given every year.

Ranks and salaries commensurate with experience and qualifications.

On termination, staff member receives a gratuity of two months' salary for each year of completed service, payable at final exit, provided, however, that the contract is not terminated during the first year which is considered a probationary period.

Three years completed service will automatically get 3 months gratuity and onwards.

Research and consultation opportunities are available and funding for individual research projects will be considered.

The University provides free medical treatment.

Applications enclosing biodata and copies of academic qualifications and certificates should be sent to:

The Director, Academic Appointments Administration, Gartoounib University, PO Box 1308, Benghazi, Libya.

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### CHIROPODY AS A PROFESSION

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**RAIDLE GROVES  
W'S WOOD NW8**  
Modern house in rural  
at Primrose Hill & Regents  
Park looking to be near the  
transport scheme, but half  
mile from it, 5 class beds,  
2 gar, gpc, £25,500.

**MOUNT ST. W.1**  
Converted flat in modern p.h.  
West End and within easy  
garden and convenient bus  
stop is included in its  
price. 4 rooming area, kitchen,  
2 bath, shower, £20,000.

**Summer Holiday**  
-529 6004

**ABBOTS PLACE, W8**  
returb base. 3 beds, 2 baths,  
size approx. £260 p.w.

**IN COURT, SW3**  
well run block, 2 beds, bath,  
size approx. £230 p.w.

**ING ASSOCIATES**  
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**SUMGTON, Birmingham**  
attractive modern  
detached 4th floor flat. 3  
beds, 2 baths, bath, central  
heating & Co. 351

**PHONY Ltd specialists,**  
selection of luxury  
refined flats with used  
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WCT: Very comfortable. Co. for fit in talk. No. Hangers 637 7058  
WCT: bed (cushions with  
complete. £180 pw  
bath, furnished. £190  
The Times.  
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SO, W. 1 - superb 2  
bath. 558 3533.  
Very spacious 2/3  
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# Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

## BBC 1

- 6.00 **Ceefax AM.**
- 6.50 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Nick Ross. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25, 8.55 and 9.15; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 7.20, 7.45 and 8.20; pop music news at 7.32; consumer report at 8.15; Plus, a preview of the week's television; health eating guide; and Alan Titchmarsh on the April countryside.
- 9.20 **Battle of the Planets.** Animated science fiction series. 9.40 **The Monkees.** Cartoon (r). 10.05 **Why Don't You...?** A new series begins with a visit to the Botanic Gardens, Glasgow. 10.30 **Play School.** Presented by Stuart McGugan. 10.50 **Cartoons.**
- 11.05 **Bonanza.** Western adventures set on the Ponderosa ranch (r). 11.50 **Wildlife on One.** Amphibious countryside (r). (Ceefax). 12.15 **The Gospel According to St. John.** The first of eight programmes presented by Paul Alexander.
- 12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Goodale. The weather prospects come from Ian McCallister. 12.57 **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles.
- 1.00 **Pebble Mill at One** includes a performance by the Georgian State Dancers. 1.45 **Chigley** (r). 2.00 **Men.** The last in the series examines why women cannot properly challenge male power (r). 2.25 **Streetside.** Self-defence series (r). 2.35 **Primal Lesson** six of the gamut conversation course (r). 2.50 **Songs of Praise** from Christchurch Cathedral (Chigley) (r). 3.25 **Daddy Duck's Easter Special** (r). 3.55 **Bertha.** The first of a new series about a machine with a mind of its own. 4.10 **Captain Caveman.** 4.20 **Busker.** The first of a new series, written and told by Christopher Lillicrap. 4.35 **Dungeons and Dragons.** A new cartoon series. 4.55 **John Craven's Newsworld.**
- 5.05 **Blue Peter.** Janet Ellis on the theme of a full length Biggles adventure film (Ceefax).
- 5.35 **Grange Hill.** Episode 13 (Ceefax).
- 6.00 **News with Sue Lawley** and Jeremy Paxman. Weather.
- 6.35 **London Plus.**
- 7.00 **Woman.** The guests are Sue Lloyd and Ronald Aldrich. Andrew Neil and Andy Ripley. Plus two more hopefuls for the Song for Europe contest sung by Dee Dyer and Annabel.
- 7.40 **Fame.** It is Thanksgiving and Lory's prodigal father returns unexpectedly.
- 8.30 **Are You Being Served?** The last programme of the series and the Spooner discovers a new talent in which the rest of the staff think that they should share.
- 9.00 **News with John Humphrys.**
- 9.25 **Panorama: Men of Honour.** Martin Vaux reports on the men who have broken the Mafia's code of silence, revealing the extent of the various groups' operations in the United States and Europe.
- 10.05 **Film: House Calls** (1978) starring Walter Matthau and Glenda Jackson. Comedy about a recently widowed medical man, determined to make up for 31 years of marital infidelity, who makes a mistake when he forms an association with a possessive divorcee. Directed by Howard Zieff.
- 11.40 **The Gospel According to St. John.** A repeat of the programme shown at 12.15.
- 11.50 **Weather.**

## TV-am

- 6.15 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Nick Owen and Jayne Irving. Music with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00 and 9.22; sport at 6.39 and 7.37; exercises at 6.50 and 8.50; Derek Jameson at 7.15; Popeye cartoon at 7.25; pop video at 7.54; astrology at 8.15; Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at 8.32; financial advice at 8.40; Roland Rat at 9.00.
- 9.25 **Thames news headlines** followed by **Sesame Street.** 10.25 **5000 Best.** The first of a new series to find the UK 5000 Freestyle Champions. 10.50 **Business Business.**
- 11.00 **Animal Architecture.** How animals protect themselves, their family and their food stores. 11.10 **Fabulous Funnies.** Cartoon. 11.35 **About Britain.** The first of a new series examining how the past and present combine in various parts of East Anglia. 12.00 **Tickle on the Tum.** Village tales for the very young. 12.10 **Let's Pretend to be the story of Cinderella.** 12.30 **Baby and Co.** The penultimate programme of Myrian Macdonald's series dealing with the problem of who looks after baby when mother is ill. 1.00 **News at One** and weather. 1.20 **Thames news** with Robin Houston. 1.30 **Film: Girls on the Road** (1975). A made for television comedy about two lady drivers who have to keep all their wits about them as they save their vehicle from being repossessed. Directed by Robert Greenwald. 1.50 **Thames news headlines.** 3.30 **The Young Doctors.** 4.00 **Tickle on the Tum.** A repeat of the programme shown at 12.00. 4.15 **Statistik** in the town of Lucky Chuck. 4.20 **He-Man and Masters of the Universe.** 4.45 **Dramarama.** Easy by Dave Sheasby. Neil Strickland rather than watching football but his parents insist that he carries on with his violin practice (Orchid). 5.15 **Diff'rent Strokes.** Comedy series about an American millionaire and his adopted family. 5.45 **News.** 6.00 **Thames News.** 6.25 **Help! My Taylor Gave** examines the system of car insurance testing in this country and offers the Family Planning Association's list of places where these tests are carried out.
- 6.35 **Crossroads.** John Banks hears some home truths from Glenda Baker.
- 7.00 **What's My Line?** Eamonn Andrews's panel consists of Ernie Wise, Jilly Cooper, Earl of Lichfield, Fiona, Baroness Thyssen and George Gals.
- 7.30 **Careeration Street.** Bet Lynch sets out to make the Rowers' life more select and genteel.
- 8.00 **Roll Over Beethoven.** Comedy series with Nigel Planer as a rock star and Lisa Goddard his piano teacher who thinks she is talking for him - until she meets him (Orchid).
- 8.30 **World in Action.** An investigation of the battle between the government, conservationists and big game hunters over the destruction of the country's red deer.
- 9.00 **Quincy.** Part two of a mystery and Quincy's investigations into the nursing home murder almost lead to his wedding being cancelled.
- 10.00 **News at Six** and weather.
- 10.30 **Film: Van Ryan's Express** (1955) starring Frank Sinatra as an American Airforce Colonel, captured by the Germans and sent to a prisoner-of-war camp. From there he plans a daring escape. Directed by Mark Robson.
- 12.40 **The Seven Deadly Sins.** 12.50 **Closedown.**

## ITV/LONDON

- 6.30 **Open University: Physics.** What's Way to Turn? Ends at 6.55. 6.55 **Cartoon.** 7.00 **Cartoon.** 7.10 **Cartoon.** 7.20 **Cartoon.** 7.30 **Cartoon.** 7.40 **Cartoon.** 7.50 **Cartoon.** 8.00 **Cartoon.** 8.10 **Cartoon.** 8.20 **Cartoon.** 8.30 **Cartoon.** 8.40 **Cartoon.** 8.50 **Cartoon.** 9.00 **Cartoon.** 9.10 **Cartoon.** 9.20 **Cartoon.** 9.30 **Cartoon.** 9.40 **Cartoon.** 9.50 **Cartoon.** 10.00 **Cartoon.** 10.10 **Cartoon.** 10.20 **Cartoon.** 10.30 **Cartoon.** 10.40 **Cartoon.** 10.50 **Cartoon.** 11.00 **Cartoon.** 11.10 **Cartoon.** 11.20 **Cartoon.** 11.30 **Cartoon.** 11.40 **Cartoon.** 11.50 **Cartoon.** 12.00 **Cartoon.** 12.10 **Cartoon.** 12.20 **Cartoon.** 12.30 **Cartoon.** 12.40 **Cartoon.** 12.50 **Cartoon.** 1.00 **Cartoon.** 1.10 **Cartoon.** 1.20 **Cartoon.** 1.30 **Cartoon.** 1.40 **Cartoon.** 1.50 **Cartoon.** 2.00 **Cartoon.** 2.10 **Cartoon.** 2.20 **Cartoon.** 2.30 **Cartoon.** 2.40 **Cartoon.** 2.50 **Cartoon.** 3.00 **Cartoon.** 3.10 **Cartoon.** 3.20 **Cartoon.** 3.30 **Cartoon.** 3.40 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